

HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH  
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF  
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY  
1994



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WHEATON, ILLINOIS 60189-0270

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THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY  
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR  
MADRAS 600 020, INDIA



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# Presidential Address

To the 119th Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society Adyar,

26 December 1994

It is my privilege and happiness to extend a very warm welcome to the delegates attending this 119th International Convention. Every Convention has a different quality, but they all serve the purpose of uniting us, from whichever part of the world we come, in service to the world and aspiration for Wisdom. Let us strengthen our links by opening our hearts to that Brotherhood of Holy Ones whose unity is unbreakable.

**May those who are the embodiment of Love immortal bless with Their help and guidance this Society founded to be a channel for Their work. May They inspire it with Their Wisdom, strengthen it with Their Power and energize it with Their activity.**

In explaining the objects of the TS, HPB observed:

Our duty is to keep alive in man his spiritual intuitions. To oppose and counteract—after due investigation and proof of its irrational nature—bigotry in every form, religious, scientific, or social, and 'cant' above all, whether as religious sectarianism or as belief in miracles or anything supernatural. What we have to do is to seek to obtain knowledge of all the laws of nature, and to diffuse it. To encourage the study of those laws least understood by modern people, the so-called Occult Sciences, based on the true knowledge of nature, instead of, as at present, on superstitious beliefs based on blind faith and authority. Popular folklore and traditions, however fanciful at times, when sifted may lead to the discovery of long-lost, but important, secrets of nature. The Society, therefore, aims at pursuing this line of enquiry, in the hope of widening the field of scientific and philosophical observation.

Bigotry and superstition find place in the heart of the irreligious materialist, as much as in the religious fanatic because they are symptomatic of the deep insecurity and fear lodged in the dark recesses of the mind. The bigot gets psychological comfort and security in believing that he is in possession of the truth. Self-righteously holding on to the words of scripture, the religious fanatic feels safe in the now and in the future. The materialist, who shakes off religious belief and shuts out all of the universe that is unknown to him, also finds it comforting to be sure of his knowledge and perceptions. A little knowledge is said to be dangerous. The modern irreligious man is entrenched in his little bit of knowledge about the outer crust of existence and fears enquiry into unknown areas. Neither of them has an open mind.

Superstition is the other face of bigotry. As mere assertion and arrogance do not free any person of his deep-set fears, he resorts to the comfort of agreeing with the thought patterns of the many, however misguided they may be.

The great stresses and strains, the cruelty and corruption which characterize present-day civilization, making us wonder whether it is civilization at all, are largely the products of the superstitions that modern man has developed. Every age has its own false beliefs, but each age also tends to imagine that it is enlightened, because the form of superstition it adopts is not the same as that which existed earlier. In Europe, during what is called the age of enlightenment, it was thought that the attitudes and practices of the previous medieval era arose out of the credulity and irrationality of religious minds, and that the new age of reason was superior. Later, as the march of scientific progress proceeded, the conclusions of the earlier rational thinkers were undermined, and their logic was seen to be limited and faulty. The present age deems itself to be more advanced than its predecessors. It believes that the postulates on which modern society bases itself are superior to the philosophical perceptions which guided the lives of earlier people.

*At the Feet of the Master* points out that 'A crime does not cease to be a crime because many commit it. Karma takes no account of custom.' This is equally true of superstitions, which word comprises all untrue and

unjustifiable ideas, whether held by an individual, a group of people or the whole world. Bigotry and superstition are formidable allies, to which the genesis of most unwise and cruel actions can be traced. They are also the unrecognized parents of much suffering, strife and confusion. Though small groups of people with superstitious beliefs may be laughed at by others, when a large majority hold on to false views and uphold the correctness of their misdirected activities, it is the story of the king's new clothes that mirrors the problem. The false is taken to be true. The thinking and acting of the misguided majority becomes the norm. Superstitions have set the standard of conduct today, as they did in previous times, and everybody conforms or is expected to conform. Conformity is of course what the self-interested in the religious, political, intellectual or business world want, for independent thinking and intelligent conduct would undermine their power or bank balances.

As an example, let us take the present day belief in majority opinion, which is falsely labelled democratic, and therefore thought to have higher value than individual views. Few care to note, as Annie Besant said clearly, that the opinions of a thousand foolish people are not more weighty and wise than the views of one enlightened person. This is obvious, yet there is a general acceptance in our day of the idea that a community or group, or society in general, can override the individual, and that the views of the many are more valid than that of a



single person. Collective opinion is a vague thing. It is sometimes represented by an elected government, which in theory is a tool of the people's will. In certain parts of the world society in this guise declares that the individual cannot take the medical treatment he prefers or refuse to take it if he so desires. Homeopathic or other kinds of care, classified these days as alternative medicine, becomes quackery when the collective mind so pronounces. Similarly, society decides when and how individuals should die. Here society is represented by a group of doctors, welfare workers, or whatever may be the case, and the individual's wish is thrown to the winds. Although there is now a budding awareness that each person's life is his own, yet the superstition of the age is that life at the physical level is the only kind of life. Sick persons must be forced to appreciate living with all their pain and misery, and made to live to the bitter end whether they want to or not. Thus the brutal hand of an outside agency catches hold of the individual, standing proxy for society as a whole. Other civilizations, not blinded by the superstition that rightness is dependent on the number of people who hold a view, had a gentler approach to the individual. But the beliefs of the modern day involve oppressive intrusion by the public mind into the personal lives of people.

Another example of evil in the present day is the belief in achievement above all things. Much of education has turned into a drive to build a mentality of getting ahead.

This superstition, like various others, is contagious. A mechanical acceptance of what others say and do prevents questioning the connection between our happiness and our concepts about the purpose of life. It was a major concern of certain peoples in the past to examine life's meaning and try to know the nature of the ultimate goal of human development, and they came to realize that human happiness is a byproduct of following right aims—aims that are in harmony with Nature's laws. Most people nowadays have no time for such a thoughtful preoccupation. They feel confident that by pursuing the immediate pleasures and goals they can manage to snatch fulfilment.

Success is the modern god, and to reach it other considerations are put aside. Virtue, relationships, rectitude—these are too abstract to be regarded seriously by modern man, who justifies his destructiveness and enormous cruelties very much as the sacrifice of living beings is justified by the worshippers of other gods. Both attitudes arise from superstitious ideas, whose validity is thought to lie in their acceptance by a crowd of people.

Achievement as life's goal is linked with belief in publicity and propaganda, which imply brainwashing or persuading people not to see things as they are. When subjected to repeated propaganda, the use of the discriminative faculty atrophies and people accept as true or desirable what the propagandist wants. The machinery of today's world is geared to building up false images of public figures, religious personalities,



institutions, goods, concepts, and a whole variety of other things. Powerful media exist now for publicizing anything, and they easily brainwash whole populations into believing that tinsel is good gold, or black is white. Truth and reality are not of importance, for worth and value are measured by glitter and popular approbation.

Another superstition we face is the conviction that whatever is beyond the average person's cognizance is unreal and should be disregarded as the folly of a less advanced world. Although a number of eminent scientists, including Einstein, have experienced something of the awesome mystery of the universe and sensed its complexity and subtlety, the average education which almost everyone now goes through develops an attitude of superciliousness towards all matters outside the range of the scientific investigations of today. Credulity is a component of the superstitious mind, but another aspect of that superstition consists in rejecting anything that is presently unknown, and equating the universe with the small sphere of human perceptions. Scepticism can be as much an obstacle to progress and a source of ignorance as credulity, for it retards the development of higher faculties and finer senses.

The false idea that knowledge expands only through already known means seriously cripples our humanity, and the acquisition of more knowledge of the same kind as we already have has become so obsessive that every other development of human nature has been relegated to the background. How few realize that

knowledge in the real sense of the term is not just knowing facts and getting information about various natural processes. Human evolution needs to advance by understanding values, meanings, and the ultimate nature of all that is. But the thirst for this deeper knowledge, which is the religious quest, has been utterly neglected, and so modern man is singularly deficient in moral understanding. His finer senses have been systematically stifled which is why for him value and meaning appear to be absent in other living beings. Great tragedies have resulted from this form of moral and spiritual dwarfing. Genocide has been quite a frequent occurrence in the twentieth century.

The excessive cruelties of our age may in the future mark it as a dark age and a low point in civilization. Millions of creatures are being ruthlessly destroyed all over the earth. Other millions are imprisoned for life in the factories where they are bred, tortured in laboratories and circuses, and generally treated as commodities. One consequence of this immense injury done to non-human life is that the human consciousness itself loses its capacity to respond with any kind of sensitivity. It is shocking, yet not surprising to learn from recent reports that radiation experiments have been performed on living human beings, and that there have been several secret operations for military and other purposes using human beings as guinea-pigs. It is but one step from regarding a guinea-pig as a material object to treating human beings, without their knowledge and consent,

as stuff for experimentation. Obviously what the heartless mind does to animals and birds it can do to human beings.

Only brave souls can act as a bulwark against these and other modern superstitions disguised as progress and proclaimed as the advance of civilization. Theosophists must lead the way to the right thinking which the Buddha said is a qualification on the spiritual path. Theosophy is vital in the context of the present world, but not for providing mere information about rays, races, or rounds. The study of these is interesting, but the perspectives on daily living that Theosophical study opens up, the indications about the true aims of life, and fundamental truths such as the indivisibility of existence are the essential factors which teach how to discriminate between false beliefs and true, and enable the seeker to stand up fearlessly against the strong current of illusory opinions. If Theosophy does not stimulate independent and fearless investigation of every commonly held premise and belief in society, even when presented as part of an enlightened state of society, we have not understood Theosophy. A tree is known by its fruits. The modern age is producing bitter fruit. It is our duty not only to examine what is wrong in the thinking of the age, but to help others to question these thought patterns and presumptions with courage and intelligence. Theosophists must learn to live wisely by clearing out all false presuppositions, and aid others to free themselves, for a truly

enlightened age to dawn.

\* \* \* \* \*

A great step in inter-racial relationship was taken with the abolition of discrimination against blacks in South Africa. The induction of the new multi-colour government followed an election which, for the first time, debarred no group of citizens from voting. The work of the Theosophical Society in South Africa is now placed in a new context. Political changes do not immediately alter attitudes and prejudices of long standing. It is only by viewing life from a different angle that people will realize that separativeness does not bring about anyone's good. The TS in South Africa has now a fine opportunity to expand its programmes and teach how life becomes truly intelligible and beneficial for the individual and humanity as a whole. We hope that a new impetus can be given to the work in the South African Section, and welcome the visit of its General Secretary to this International Convention, especially as for so many years no representative from that part of the world has been here.

Mr Reuben Thuku, National Lecturer of the TS in East and Central Africa, was the guest speaker at the Southern African convention held in Capetown. He travelled with Mr Kiran Shah, former General Secretary in East Africa, and lectured in Pretoria and Johannesburg as well. The two Sections have agreed to strengthen their ties and work towards a Federation of African Sections. Work continues in seven lodges in Kenya, but

is limping along in Tanzania, where there are only two lodges, while in Zambia there are six. The Section continues to receive a good deal of publicity on radio and television. Its bookstall is well stocked and is a useful instrument of propagation. The TOS is active in both Kenya and Tanzania.

The West African Section's headquarters is at Accra. For long there has been a plan to construct a building there, and this has at last materialized this year. The General Secretary reports that members have sacrificed much in order to proceed with the building, which is well situated and very accessible. The political conditions in countries other than Ghana, namely Nigeria, Liberia and the Cameroons, have been difficult, but work is being carried on. Although civil war has ravaged Liberia, in Monrovia, the capital, study meetings have been resumed and Slater Lodge has a fresh lease of life. Every year a workers' course is conducted in Ghana to make Theosophy more of a practical philosophy for the members. *At the Feet of the Master* continues to sell in the Twi version and hopefully other important theosophical books will appear in the future in the major African languages.

The General Secretary of the English Section, Miss Lilian Storey, reports that out of the 1,425 members they have, 803 are unattached. It is, I feel, my duty to repeat that our Society's fundamental aim of forming a nucleus of universal brotherhood was meant to be achieved by members engaging themselves together in the

common work of theosophical study and service. By learning to subordinate individual preferences and prejudices through devotion to a larger cause, that of universal well-being, members must provide a living example to the world and let flow currents of altruistic thought. All theories must be tested in practice. It is easy to think about brotherhood, tolerance and sympathy, but difficult to live them, when one's theories are jostled by other people's views, modes of action, and character traits. World conditions will ameliorate only when people of goodwill put themselves in the crucible of relationships, strive to subdue the self through dedication to the common welfare, and rise above difficulties created by the personal self, with purified minds and understanding hearts.

Returning to the English Section, we learn that the headquarters has benefited from distributing theosophical books transferred there after closing the Publishing House. In Scotland there have been vexatious problems over property. In spite of that, new lodges were chartered at Dundee and Inverness. Members have concentrated on exploring the deeper aspects of Theosophy, which should bring good results. Dublin too has had long drawn-out disputes over their handsome building, which has not prevented a small group of members from carrying on bravely. Studies are regular in Belfast also, where there is hardly any improvement in the surrounding conditions. Violence and uncertainty seem to have become endemic. In Wales a panel has been

appointed to guide new members. This needs to be done in other places, for in many Sections there are large membership losses through lapsings. It has been found that the majority of them relate to members who have recently joined the Society. With more fraternal attention and guidance, they are likely to find what they are seeking in the theosophical philosophy. Lodges must also provide nourishment for questing souls with different temperaments—intellectual, devotional, or philanthropic—who may be at varying stages of inner development.

In Sweden, six lodges have had regular activities and two of them celebrated their centenary. Professor Krishna was the guest speaker at their summer school and lectured on such subjects as 'Knowledge and Insight', 'The Scientific and Religious Approaches to Truth' and 'The Role of the Teacher'. A special feature was an hour in the evening of silence together. Professor Krishna visited Oslo also for a two-day seminar and the General Secretary reports that it gave them an opportunity to have contacts with the Krishnamurti group and intellectuals in the university. Their magazine has presented HPB's diagram of meditation in Norwegian and this has been used in meetings.

In Copenhagen public meetings are continuing in rented premises. Numerically, there is a very slow but steady expansion in Denmark. A small but dedicated group is holding the fort ever since the Section went through a crisis. The Presidential Representative, Mrs. Edel Scharstein, mentions the competition from 'New Age' groups,

who offer exciting programmes on 'Regression,' 'Meet Your Inner Child', 'Initiation Nowadays,' 'Soul Travels,' 'Chakra Healing,' and other enticing themes. Although the workers are few, which is the situation almost everywhere else, they are endeavouring to develop the TS in Denmark with determination.

As I mentioned previously, the Finnish Section is fostering theosophical activities in Estonia, which so far is the only Baltic country, formerly occupied by the USSR, where regular theosophical activity takes place. Lectures have been organized at least once a month in the Estonian capital of Tallinn. Three persons from Estonia were helped to participate in the Finnish summer-school where Professor Ravi Ravindra was the guest speaker. Two new lodges were established in Finland, one called Immortality (*amrita*) and the other Rainbow (*sateenkaari*). These names may suggest to others the wide scope for naming lodges. In India, the names too often give the impression that the lodge is Hindu. Obviously lodge names should not have sectarian overtones which prevent people from coming in freely. The Finnish publications during the year included letters of Damodar Mavalankar, with a short biography, and *Human Regeneration*.

The Icelandic Section's programmes and attendance at public meetings have increased. They specialize in study and practical lessons on self-culture and meditation, suited to the mystical temperament which seems to characterize the people. Three lodges are outside the capital of



Reykjavik, where the headquarters building has been renovated and modernized. The General Secretary, Mr Adalsteinsson, remarks: 'People need practical solutions to the psychological problems coming from today's unwholesome attitudes. So let us make Theosophy practical as well as sensible'.

This is indeed good advice, for one of the reasons that the Society does not make as great an impact as it could is that the unique value of Theosophy in overcoming the practical problems of daily life is not explored by members and presented in a common-sense manner. Theosophy is vast in its scope, being the understanding of life at all levels with all its unlimited expressions, and hence it is easily made into an abstraction and expounded as a theory divorced from normal daily concerns. Studies must therefore not fail to relate theosophical truths, even though the magnitude of meaning in them is vast, to the immediate and pressing ethical questions of humanity and the perplexities of action in daily life.

Professor Phan, General Secretary of the French Section, states that several study sessions were held in the Section, especially in the South, in order to bring new life into the work. Pictures of Adyar and the Adyar video were also shown on different occasions to create awareness about the international headquarters. The French-speaking regional summer-school, held in a very beautiful spot, on the theme 'The Universe, the Earth, and Man', had a good attendance. It has been a custom in Europe to choose

lovely, natural spots for summer-schools, for the influence of Nature helps the consciousness to open towards the deeper and the universal in life. Professor Phan is also working out a plan to decentralize the administration of the Section, the publishing house and bookshop, and the management of the headquarters property. He hopes that the ground will thus be prepared for better cooperation and for reversal of the trend towards decreasing membership.

The Italian Section has had a decrease of membership after several years of increase and the number has dropped below 1,000. Madame Danielle Audoin and Miss Kim Diêu conducted a seminar on the modernity of the eternal teaching for about sixty participants, some of whom were from Slovenia. The General Secretary, Dr E. Bratina, mentions that the church and newspapers often thunder against the 500 and odd sects in which they include the TS, and they are obliged to defend the TS against malicious assaults. There are also the faithful of certain sects who attempt to avail themselves of the atmosphere of tolerance in the TS to introduce their own beliefs. This problem can only be counteracted by TS members seriously educating themselves in the fundamental principles of Theosophy, which provide the key to what is authentic or not. This was stressed in the lectures printed in *Human Regeneration*, but understanding and conviction must come from within each member through application of the mind to the problem and through discussion in lodges.



The Portuguese Section continues its normal activities and their magazine is now published regularly. Although there is no report from Spain, we have been informed that they have plans to establish an Institute of Theosophy for providing courses and training workers. Mr Isaac Jauli, former General Secretary of the Mexican Section, is helping with this project. *The Mahatma Letters* and *Glimpses of Occultism* have been published in Spanish.

After continuous effort by the members in Germany, contacts were established in the former East Germany. New members in Rostock and the Dresden area are attempting to kindle sufficient interest to start lodges. The German Publishing House, named 'Adyar', brought out a number of reprints and has other books on the anvil, including Professor S. Rinpoche's *Buddhist Meditation* and Sylvia Cranston's biography of HPB. Madame Eliane Gaillard, General Secretary of the Swiss Section, reports that they may have to close the lodge in Basel, but the one in Zurich is growing. These ups and downs in the lives of lodges are usually connected with the availability or lack of a few who carry the weight of responsibility. It is rarely that all members share the work. A new activity in Geneva is the second-hand book sale launched by a member to attract people, who it is found stay for discussions on theosophical topics over a cup of tea. A theme is introduced and discussion follows.

Work in Austria is confined to the three cities of Vienna, Graz, and Linz. The TS in this country is small, as is

the TS in Slovenia, which has also only three lodges. Miss Mary Anderson visited the Slovenian lodges twice and also spoke at Maribor, where there is a possibility of forming a new group. As mentioned last year, members badly need a meeting place in Ljubljana. *The Science of Yoga*, *The Key to Theosophy*, and *Chakras* are among recent publications in their language.

Activities in Hungary are steady, including study of the fundamentals of Theosophy and meditation sessions. The video on Adyar was shown to people and some social meetings were held with free discussions on subjects of common interest. The Presidential Representative, Mr Laszlo Reicher, mentions that though membership is growing slowly, more people are getting interested. He also reports that there is a small group of descendants of members in Rumania who are being contacted. Books in English and Hungarian have been distributed in Rumania and contact has also been made with enquirers in Sophia, Bulgaria. Several books, such as HPB's *Practical Occultism* and Annie Besant's *Karma*, *Reincarnation*, *Introduction to Yoga*, and *The Ancient Wisdom* have been printed in two to three thousand copies. The first issue of a periodical was published, bearing volume No. 87, counting from 1907 when the TS in Hungary was established!

When the European Council met at the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden and Seminars were held, seven young guests of the Federation from Eastern Europe participated. Among them were Mrs Nina Veligon,

who was appointed as Presidential Representative for Russia and the Ukraine in June 1994, with Mr Rustam Murtasin as her assistant. The Chairman of the European Federation, Mr Curt Berg, and the Vice-Chairman, Miss Kim Diêu, have been assiduously building up interest in Theosophy in these two countries by holding seminars and many private discussions. They have succeeded in organizing the beginnings of an administration for the region. From the International Headquarters we have sent application forms, introductory leaflets, and other literature translated into Russian and printed at Adyar. A seminar was held near Dnepropetrovsk in the Ukraine with Annie Besant's *The Ancient Wisdom* as the basis, with forty-five participants. Mr Curt Berg and Miss Kim Diêu conducted it and gave lectures which were well attended, and were followed by numerous questions. Future plans include further visits and seminars and, of course, a great deal of correspondence.

Carrying Theosophy to these areas is arduous and many discomforts have to be faced. We owe gratitude to Mr Curt Berg and Miss Kim Diêu, who have achieved much for the Society in spite of the confusion, physical and intellectual, rampant in the area. In fact, it is a veritable Tower of Babel, where voices are raised to acquire simultaneously spiritual knowledge as well as economic advantage, receive Theosophical instruction and follow sectarian cults. Let us hope that the theosophical message will ring out finally in clear and unmistakable tones and that HPB's motherland will be

brightened by her wisdom.

Dr John Algeo, National President of the TS in America, reports that 'Olcott', their headquarters, serves the whole Section, but has a special relationship with members at large, who now comprise well over half the national membership. He says that a healthy future requires a balance between development at the local level and at the national centre. During the year, a number of volunteers presented lectures throughout the country. In addition, every group was sent free of charge a video on the Mahatmas and their letters and a related study course. *The American Theosophist* carried studies in *The Key to Theosophy* and short biographical articles on famous Theosophists. For members-at-large a newsletter cum study-paper called *The Messenger* is being sent.

The Olcott Institute was established to provide theosophical education through seminars and other programmes at their headquarters and in the districts. It is as yet in the stage of development and the future will see increased activities. A dormitory at headquarters to accommodate students and delegates to the annual meeting is taking shape at the mental level. During the last five years there has been a decline in membership which stands now at 4,358. It is proposed to investigate the causes and effects. Sales of Quest books have increased considerably owing to new arrangements for distribution and marketing.

In Canada the main centre of activity was Blavatsky Lodge at Vancouver.

Elsewhere in the country there are smaller groups. The number of members has risen slowly but steadily from 95 to 103. Their magazine *The Light Bearer* is well received.

The report from the General Secretary of the Brazilian Section says that they have planned regular visits by lecturers to lodges and study groups, and this is backed up by making more theosophical literature available in Portuguese. In spite of this, their membership has come down. Among the books published were *Living in Wisdom* by Miss Joy Mills, and C.W. Leadbeater's *The Christian Gnosis*. Building development is going on in the estate acquired near Brasilia and programmes are being held there under the auspices of the Institute of Theosophy.

After passing through a crisis, the Uruguayan Section has regained stability. During my visit to Montevideo, important points were discussed with the National Council. Lectures and studies are going on regularly. Although the theosophical presence in Peru is modest, earnest efforts are being made to make Theosophy known through public lectures and courses. A fund has been started for the construction of TS premises. At Santiago, the capital of Chile, a bookstore named Sophia was inaugurated during my visit, when the Indian Ambassador was also present. A weekly radio programme, study classes, public lectures and a magazine are now part of the regular activities. Efforts to revive lodges which were dormant for long seem to be bearing fruit.

Although there was a hiatus after the passing of Mr Aramayo, former Presidential Representative in Bolivia, work has been resumed with the help of visits from Mr Juan Cassibba and Mr and Mrs Palmeri from Argentina. Plans are afoot to carry Theosophy outside Cochabamba and La Paz, where the work was concentrated so far.

We are informed that at the Theosophical Colony in San Raphael, Argentina, a number of camps for the young were organized, as well as a summer-school and a spiritual retreat. The publicity leaflets of the Argentine Section include one on vegetarianism. Leaflets and books were displayed again in book fairs, and meditation groups work to generate peace.

On my first visit to Venezuela this year, accompanied by Mrs Dolores Gago and Miss Mariela Lasso, General Secretary of the Colombian Section, we found much administrative confusion. People were called 'members' even though they never applied for membership. It was believed that anyone who attended meetings or felt sympathy for the Society was a member. The lodges did not follow any regular procedures. However, following the discussions we had, and a further visit by Miss Lasso, some order was created. Activity may take place in the future on a sounder basis.

Ignorance about rules, membership, collection of annual dues and payment of the proportionate amount to Adyar is not special to Venezuela. In Sri Lanka, Malaysia, and some isolated places, the situation was similar. Because we have followed a liberal policy, not pressing officials of

Sections and other bodies too hard to fulfil all their obligations, their administration can easily slip into confusion, as in these cases. Perhaps there is need to be more insistent on compliance with necessary procedures.

In Colombia some lodges outside the capital have been activated. The General Secretary, with the help of her colleagues, has energetically applied herself to making the TS in Colombia more active. The Central American Section is sporadically in communication with international headquarters. The contacts between lodges has improved along with more political stability, but there are considerable administrative problems in shifting the headquarters from country to country as they do every three years.

Unfortunately, most of the Sections have recorded a drop in membership. Sometimes it is said that this is due to weeding out. Those who lapse from membership owing to non-payment of dues should be dropped out every year and the report of the Section should give correct membership figures, instead of providing figures which include lapsed members year after year, until in one special year weeding is done and a big drop shown. In any case, serious attention needs to be given to the widespread decline in numbers everywhere, resulting in the total figure coming down from about 31,000 to around 29,000.

Cuba is one of the noteworthy exceptions. The General Secretary informs us that the number of members has gone up by about 70, and the total is over 700. This

represents their dedication and spirit of sacrifice in the TS cause.

The report of the Indian Section mentions that there was a continuation of the programmes organized for the centenary of Annie Besant's arrival in India. The Indian Government's Films Division has released a documentary on her. Study and training camps were held as before in different regions. *The Indian Theosophist* goes out to about 5,500 members, and journals in vernacular languages serve the other members. Translations into Hindi of *Human Regeneration* and Annie Besant's *In the Outer Court* are ready. The members in good standing number 10,718, showing a small gain of 77 over the previous year.

In Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Pakistan there are only small groups of members. Mr B.L. Bhattacharya of Calcutta visited Bangladesh at our request, because contacts by correspondence were difficult. As a result a new lodge is being chartered at Chittagong and communication re-established with Comilla Lodge.

Dr C.V. Agarwal, Presidential Representative for South-East Asia, visited Sri Lanka again. This Section has for some time had neither the required number of lodges nor members to be a Section. But it is hoped now that as a result of Dr Agarwal's visit, some lodges will revive and membership increase. The report from Indonesia mentions their difficulties. To help them, the International Headquarters has provided scholarships for two younger members to attend the School of the



Wisdom, and the TS in Australia donated funds for publications in Indonesian, which were used to bring out the manuals. Two study groups have been formed around unattached members in East and Central Java. Dr C.V. Agarwal visited this country also.

In the Philippine Section four study groups were chartered as lodges, but the membership has fallen. The Section's publishing house brought out *The Mahatma Letters* in chronological order, which will be very helpful to students. The General Secretary reports a gift of thirty-one hectares of land, which they hope will form the ground for a theosophical centre. The Order of Service received an award from the Department of Health for developing innovative approaches to health care.

Miss Joy Mills, National President of the Australian Section, says that a long-felt need was fulfilled when the Australian School of Theosophy was inaugurated in April. The Section has acquired eleven acres of land in Queensland with fine facilities, including a meeting hall. It was inaugurated in August with many members present. Dissemination of Theosophy and publicity will be improved as leaflets, correspondence course letters to new members, and other materials have been revised.

The HPB Lodge in Auckland, which is the biggest in New Zealand will be shifting to a new building near the Section's headquarters, the old one having been sold. The General Secretary's report mentions serious problems in Christchurch Lodge, where a too liberal policy in regard to

both membership and programmes ended in an attempt at take-over of the TS property. Fortunately this was prevented, but the matter is in court. The Section received visits from several lecturers, including Miss Joy Mills and Mr Norman Hankin from the Manor, and Mr Pedro Oliveira.

During the months of April and May, I made an extensive tour of Latin American countries accompanied by Mrs Dolores Gago of Uruguay, an expert translator. Though the time was short, it was very helpful in coming to know the workers, problems, modes of functioning, and deficiencies. Conditions in Cuba are very difficult, but the members are faithfully carrying on and there is hope that liberalization will be forced by economic conditions. While I was in Chile a group of members came especially from Bolivia to Santiago and reported about their aims and activities. For the first time I came personally to know about the work in Peru and Venezuela. Everywhere there is need for contacts and the stimulation a visit can bring. The Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan went to five Federations in India for theosophical work. I also visited several areas within the Indian Section.

Mr Pedro Oliveira, International Secretary, toured both New Zealand and Australia, visiting practically every lodge. His lectures and visits were much appreciated. Dr C.V. Agarwal overcame many difficulties to visit Myanmar, from where he commenced his tour of South-East Asia. This initial visit, we hope, will prepare the ground for a theosophical rebirth in that



country when the time is ripe. Both of them also visited Malaysia, and the lodges there which had declared themselves independent of the international Society are now renewing their affiliation. Membership records are being established and procedures set up for the whole area, including Singapore and Sri Lanka. The correspondence with Hong Kong, and the members in Korea and Japan has met with varying responses. With continued endeavour it should be possible to see Theosophy spread more widely in this vast region and be introduced into Thailand, China and other countries where it has now no foothold.

The Theosophical Order of Service in India is gaining vitality. The Order is active in a number of other countries also, as can be seen from its report. Callousness and cruelty are pervasive in the present-day world, and a great deal of work needs to be done, not only to defend the helpless, but also to create awareness of the need for compassion and harmony in our relationships with people, animals and the world of nature. The TOS needs to be strengthened and made into an instrument for practical realization of the principle of unity and encouragement of an attitude of care and service. Mrs Diana Chapotin has been corresponding throughout the year to elicit information and stimulate interest, but the response is as yet not at a satisfactory level. A periodical named *The Service Link* will appear early in 1995, and we hope it will coordinate, encourage, and generate worldwide TOS work.

The School of the Wisdom had two sessions. The first, conducted from January onwards by Miss Mary Anderson, was on the Evolution of Man as set forth in *The Secret Doctrine*, supplemented by a study of *The Voice of the Silence*. From October to December Mr. Rohit Mehta was the Director with the Doctrine of the Heart as his subject. Students from several countries attended both the sessions.

After a great deal of labour, a descriptive catalogue of the Tamil manuscripts in the Adyar Library, of which there are quite a number, was brought out in part. These descriptive catalogues are valuable for scholars and the Library has yet to publish more volumes of such catalogues. Improvements have been made in conservation as a result of the training taken by Miss Jaishree. Professor R. Radhakrishnan, University of Calgary, donated 1,616 books, for which we are grateful. The Library suffered a serious loss in the passing away of Professor E.R. Sreekrishna Sarma.

New publications of the TPH were *Man and the Universe* by Justice A.R. Bakshi, which incorporates lectures delivered in the School of the Wisdom; *Does India Have a Future?* by Mr Rajmohan Gandhi, which was the Besant Lecture of December 1993; and some other titles. Mr Gandhi's lecture appeared in full in one of India's national papers, *The Hindu*, and was also favourably reviewed. An illustrated book on Adyar and *Teachings on Discipleship*, based on the Mahatma Letters, will be brought out soon. A modernization programme to improve the quality of the books

and reduce the prices of paperback editions is being initiated. The sales for the year were good.

The work of the Olcott Education Society, which is the parent of the Olcott School, HPB hostel, and Social Welfare Centre has been going on satisfactorily. Mrs L. Seethalakshmi was appointed as Warden of HPB hostel in the place of Mrs Murugesan, and Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan as headmistress of the Olcott school, which is now celebrating its centenary with Mr Arjun Gopalaratnam overseeing the school work in his capacity as secretary of the school.

A new building in Besant Gardens now houses the boys in the HPB hostel. After the renovation of the old building, we propose to admit girls next year. The Olcott Memorial School's centenary is being marked by providing for it a Prayer Hall.

Residential accommodation has also been increased by a large new building erected near it. We are continuing the programme of constructing light first floors over some houses, with a view to eliminating the need for thatched huts

during the Convention. A newly reconstructed Upasika Cottage is even now accommodating many of this year's delegates.

We regret to report the passing of Dr S.V. Joseph, who was the medical officer at headquarters for about forty years, serving residents and workers with competence and care. Dr Mrs. Sushila Oza has been appointed in his place.

Many trees have been planted at Adyar and we are taking care that future plans will not disturb the deep peace and uplifting atmosphere of this peerless centre, blessed by the Great Ones and their loyal lieutenants on the visible plane. Many a visitor remarks upon its unique charm and the presence that they feel on entering the campus. May Adyar live long and provide a home for the highest influences. May every centre and lodge of the Society also become a miniature powerhouse, shedding peace on the world and inspiring people to find the light that never fades.

Radha Burnier



## THE TREASURER'S REPORT 1993-94

### THE TREASURER'S REPORT

AND

### ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 1994

## TREASURER'S REPORT 1993-94

The consolidated Income and Expenditure Account of the Society shows a moderate surplus of Rs. 48,752/-. During the year, the Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund has increased from Rs. 19,916,891/- to Rs. 19,966,660/- and Other Funds from Rs. 19,002,330/- to Rs. 21,243,317/-.

The total amount spent on charitable work during the year was Rs. 1,212,753/- as against Rs. 1,144,299/- for the last year. The amount incurred on education was Rs. 1,026,291/- and other major expenses related to the Social Welfare Centre and the Dispensary.

The amount spent on capital account for the year is Rs. 1,272,467/- and it mainly represents the new construction for the H.P.B. Hostel. In the current financial year, we anticipate spending in excess of Rs. 2.5 million on building construction as the Prayer Hall for Olcott School and the new houses in Besant Gardens are scheduled to be completed.

Income from investments for the year was Rs. 3,939,202/-, which was lower by Rs. 150,762/- compared to the previous year. Interest rates are falling and, therefore, earnings from investments are likely to be affected in the future unless there is a significant increase in the corpus.

The net deficit from the departments has gone up to Rs. 2,661,727/- as against Rs. 2,144,423/- for the previous year. This increase in the overall deficit is due to such factors as increased electricity charges, renewal of water supply and electrical installations and maintenance and renovation of old buildings in the estate.

In the coming years, we anticipate further increases in the cost of building repairs as there is a steep increase in the cost of material in the recent past. We have to take up renovation of several old buildings such as the one use for the H.P.B. Hostel, and the Dairy Quarters and Cattle Shed. In addition, the main water tank in the Estate is due for replacement and is likely to cost over Rs. 500,000/-.

The gross surplus in the Publishing House has gone up to Rs. 1,013,380/- from Rs. 904,139/- but there is no corresponding growth in the net surplus due to fall in royalty receipts and reduced income from investments.

The deficit in the Vasanta Press has gone up from Rs. 239,912/- to Rs. 314,821/- due to significant fall in the production. Efforts are being made to reorganize the department to remedy the situation.

The overall financial position of the Society continues to be satisfactory.

On behalf of the Society, I express my gratitude for the continuing support of members throughout the world.

D. K. GOVINDARAJ

*Hony. Treasurer*



# FEES AND DUES RECEIVED

(From 1 April 1993 to 31 March 1994)

Name of the Section				1992-93	1993-94
				Rs.	Rs.
The Theosophical Society in	Africa, East and Central ...			—	—
"	Africa, South ...			1,317	956.00
"	Africa, West ...			—	—
"	America, Central ...			12,350	2,911.00
"	Argentina ...			42,400	62,360.00
"	Australia ...			73,518	78,146.50
"	Austria ...			—	—
"	Belgium ...			22,202	23,867.00
"	Bolivia ...			452	6,479.13
"	Brazil ...			—	67,980.00
"	Canada ...			6,088	2,741.23
"	Chile ...			2,827	3,090.00
"	Colombia ...			—	3,663.00
"	Cuba ...			—	—
"	Denmark ...			2,416	2,140.00
"	England ...			139,514	45,303.00
"	Finland ...			—	28,735.80
"	France ...			50,006	—
"	Germany ...			—	72,887.00
"	Hungary ...			14,169	—
"	Iceland ...			17,483	14,358.00
"	India ...			47,100	66,968.40
"	Ireland, North ...			—	—
"	Ireland ...			852	1,451.89
"	Italy ...			67,171	—
"	Mexico ...			—	52,991.50
"	Netherlands ...			63,127	138,054.00
"	New Zealand ...			—	—
"	Norway ...			11,806	4,333.70
"	Pakistan ...			—	1,200.00
"	Peru ...			4,156	4,053.40
"	Philippines ...			—	—
"	Portugal ...			2,706	2,782.20
"	Puerto Rico ...			10,837	10,744.00
"	Scotland ...			2,167	2,328.00
"	Slovenia ...			4,109	3,863.00
"	Spain ...			19,336	20,160.48
"	Sweden ...			32,186	—
"	Switzerland ...			—	27,188.00
"	USA ...			255,925	289,670.00
"	Uruguay ...			—	23,981.87
"	Venezuela ...			1,804	1,870.80
"	Wales ...			1,539	2,360.40
Lodges attached to Adyar	...	...	...	41,085	32,556.95
Fellows at large	...	...	...	12,170	7,830.00
				962,818	1,110,006.35

# THE THEOSOPHICAL

## BALANCE SHEET AS

As at 31-3-1993	LIABILITIES	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-1994	
Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
	<b>General Fund:</b>			
19,954,657	Balance as per last Balance Sheet ...		20,125,512	
—	Add: Transfer from Adyar Estate Improvement Fund ...		1,247,380	
19,954,657			21,372,892	
133,085	Transfer from Other Funds ...		47,069	
20,087,742			21,419,961	
37,770	Surplus for the year ...		48,752	
20,125,512				21,468,713
19,916,891	Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund ...			19,966,660
19,002,330	Other Funds ...	5		21,243,317
2,432,710	Current Liabilities and Provisions ...	6		1,852,793
	Notes on Accounts ...	7		
61,477,443				64,531,483

In the opinion of the Executive Committee the Current Assets, Loans and Advances are approximately of the value stated if realized in the ordinary course of transacting the affairs of the Society and the Provision made in the accounts for all known liabilities is adequate.

MADRAS  
22-10-1994

D. K. GOVINDARAJ  
Hony. Treasurer

# SOCIETY, ADYAR, MADRAS 600 020

AT 31st MARCH 1994

As at 31-3-1993	ASSETS	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-1994
Rs.			Rs.
14,725,894	<b>Fixed Assets</b> ...	1	<b>15,484,078</b>
	<b>Investments: (At Cost)</b>		
38,969,740	Fixed Deposits in Scheduled Banks and Public Sector Undertakings		40,475,740
	<b>Current Assets, Loans and Advances:</b>		
2,089,383	Stocks ...	2	1,791,824
613,908	Sundry Debtors ...		792,321
4,144,681	Cash and Bank Balances ...	3	4,998,160
933,837	Loans and Advances ...	4	989,360
			<b>8,571,665</b>
<b>6,147,443</b>			<b>64,531,483</b>

This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our Report of even date.

FRASER & ROSS  
Chartered Accountants

# THE THEOSOPHICAL

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31-3-1993	EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31-3-1994	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
	<b>Departments: (Net Expenditure)</b>		
37,729	Bhojanasala ...	44,808	
289,000	Garden ...	276,934	
12,794	Leadbeater Chambers ...	3,709	
1,804,900	Maintenance ...	2,336,276	2,661,727
	<b>Charitable Work:</b>		
12,825	Animal Welfare ...	15,926	
	Education (Class Room Renovation Rs. 231,228, Contribution and expenses reimbursed to School Rs. 795,063) ...	1,026,291	
947,408	Distress Relief ...	2,150	
32,163	Free Dispensary ...	58,040	
42,688	Medical Treatment ...	8,636	
7,358	School Fees and Books ...	13,790	
10,208	Social Welfare Work ...	54,285	
80,737	T O S International ...	24,310	
6,712	Others ...	9,325	
4,200			
1,144,299		1,212,753	
150,524	<i>Less: Transfer from Other Funds</i>	69,488	
993,775			1,143,265
	<b>Propagation of Theosophy: (Net Expenditure):</b>		
181,549	Adyar Library ...	202,048	
—	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter ...	31,727	
239,912	The Vasanta Press ...	314,821	
46,826	School of the Wisdom ...	39,981	
10,178	T. S. Workers' Training Camp ...	—	
1,439	Information and Public Relations ...	11,550	
88,348	Archives and Museum ...	135,408	
15,374	Theosophy Science Centre ...	11,823	
—	Convention ...	33,938	
583,626		781,296	
10,178	<i>Less: Transfer from Other Funds</i>	—	
573,448			781,296
	<b>International Offices:</b>		
85,355	President and Vice-President ...	72,826	
129,260	Treasurer ...	146,972	
93,419	Secretary ...	146,282	366,080
	<b>Establishment:</b>		
73,698	Headquarters ...	87,850	
31,154	General Manager's Office ...	40,480	
99,823	Movable Properties Department ...	96,251	
65,523	Sanitary Department ...	74,123	
314,063	Security Department ...	369,044	667,748
4,603,941	c/f		5,620,116



SOCIETY, ADYAR, MADRAS 600 020

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 1994

Year ended 31-3-1993	INCOME	Year ended 31-3-1994
Rs.		Rs.
	<b>Propagation of Theosophy (Net Income):</b>	Rs.
1,246,029	The Theosophical Publishing House ...	951,171
60,740	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter ...	—
498,018	General Donations ...	951,171
4,089,964	Interest ...	347,311
962,818	Fees and Dues ...	3,939,202
54,000	Licence Fees ...	1,110,007
144,019	Miscellaneous Receipts ...	84,000
		89,624
7,055,588	c / f	6,521,315

## THE THEOSOPHICAL

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31-3-1993	EXPENDITURE—Contd.	Year ended 31-3-1994
Rs.		Rs.
4,603,941	b/f	Rs. 5,620,116
	<b>Other Expenses:</b>	
—	Insurance Premium ...	3,019
153,394	Legal and Court Expenses ...	20,442
33,485	Audit Fees ...	32,509
230,820	Rates and Taxes ...	27,966
367	Bank Charges ...	781
677,538	Depreciation ...	681,481
41,964	Motor Car Expenses ...	34,105
76,309	Miscellaneous ...	52,144
		852,447
1,200,000	Transfer to Education Endowment Fund ...	—
37,770	Surplus transferred to General Fund ...	48,752
7,055,588		6,521,315

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 1994

D. K. GOVINDARAJ  
*Hony. Treasurer*

# THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

## BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31-3-1996

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	Rs.		Rs.
<b>Departments (Net Expenditure)</b>		<b>Propagation of Theosophy</b>	
Bhojanasala ...	44,500	Theosophical Publishing House	1,077,000
Garden ...	286,000	General Donations ...	300,000
Leadbeater Chambers ...	22,800	Interest ...	4,500,000
Maintenance ...	2,625,500	Membership Fees and Dues ...	1,000,000
<b>Charitable Work:</b>		Licence Fees ...	96,000
Animal Welfare ...	94,000	Miscellaneous Receipts ...	150,000
Education ...	900,000	Excess of Expenditure	
Distress Relief ...	25,000	over Income ...	65,800
Free Dispensary ...	75,000		
Medical Treatment ...	10,000		
School Fees and Books ...	30,000		
Social Welfare Work ...	60,000		
Others ...	10,000		
<b>Propagation of Theosophy</b>			
Adyar Library & Research			
Centre ...	262,000		
The Theosophist and			
Adyar Newsletter ...	107,500		
The Vasanta Press ...	299,500		
School of the Wisdom ...	60,000		
Workers' Training Camp ...	20,000		
Information and Public			
Relations ...	25,000		
Archives and Museum ...	120,000		
Theosophy Science Centre ...	15,000		
TOS International ...	15,000		
<b>International Offices</b>			
President and			
Vice-President ...	50,000		
Treasurer ...	160,000		
Secretary ...	120,000		
<b>Establishment</b>			
Headquarters ...	100,000		
General Manager's Office ...	48,000		
Movable Properties Dept. ...	150,000		
Sanitary Department ...	90,000		
Security Department ...	400,000		
<b>Other Expenses</b>			
Insurance Premium ...	5,000		
Legal Expenses ...	15,000		
Audit Fees ...	35,000		
Rates & Taxes ...	100,000		
Motor Car Maintenance ...	49,000		
Miscellaneous ...	60,000		
Depreciation ...	700,000		
	<u>7,423,000</u>		<u>7,423,000</u>



**HEADQUARTERS**

**ADYAR, MADRAS 600 020  
INDIA**



## OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 1994

### Executive Committee:

- |                        |                               |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Mrs Radha Burnier   | <i>President</i>              |
| 2. Mr Surendra Narayan | <i>Vice-President</i>         |
| 3. Mr Pedro Oliveira   | <i>Secretary</i>              |
| 4. Mr D.K. Govindaraj  | <i>Treasurer</i>              |
| 5. Mrs Norma Y. Sastry | <i>General Council Member</i> |
| 6. Mr S.S. Varma       | " " <i>Member</i>             |
| 7. Mr K. Visvanathan   |                               |

**General Manager:** Mr D.K.Govindaraj

**Adyar Library:** *Director:* Dr K.K. Raja

*Librarian:* Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam

**Bhojanasala:** Mrs Uma Nilakanta

**Garden:** Mr Arjun Gopalaratnam

**Information:** Mr C. Seshadri

**Leadbeater Chambers:** Mrs Uma Nilakanta

**Maintenance:** Mr G. Raghavan

**Medical and Sanitary:** Dr Mrs Susheela Oza

**Movable Properties:** Mr S.M. Amarnath Rao

**Museum and Archives:** Mr S.S. Varma

**School of the Wisdom:** *Director:* Miss Ianthe Hoskins & Miss Mary Anderson  
(Jan. March 1994)

Mr Rohit Mehta (Oct.-Dec.1994)

**Security:** Mr D.V. Subramaniam

**Theosophical Publishing House:** *Manager:* Lt. Col. Nandan Nilakanta

**The Theosophist:** *Assistant Editor:* Mr G. Naganathan

**Vasanta Press:** Mr B.K. Rao

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### OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

*Chairman:* President, TS

*Secretary:* Mr N. Janakiram

*Treasurer:* Mr D.K. Govindaraj

**Olcott Memorial School:** *Headmistress:* Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan

**HPB Hostel:** Mrs Seethalakshmi Namasivayam

**Social Welfare Centre:** Mrs Swarnagauri Govindaraj

# SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 1994

National Societies and Sections	34
Regional Associations (formed under Rule 35 (c))	4
Presidential Agencies	10
Total Lodges and Study Centres	1,018
Total Membership 1993	31,044
Total Membership 1994	29,472

Section/Area	No. of Lodges and Study Centres	No. of Members
1. Africa, East & Central	20	614
2. Africa, South	5	236
3. Africa, West	15	352
4. America, Central	6	124
5. Argentina	24	416
6. Asia, South-East	3	144
7. Australia	13	1,397
8. Austria	3	137
9. Belgium	8	131
10. Bolivia	8	93
11. Brazil	36	888
12. Canada	6	103
13. Chile	3	67
14. Colombia	8	102
15. Cuba	14	718
16. Denmark	1	42
17. England	—	1,515
18. Finland	23	511
19. France	32	715
20. Germany	9	225
21. Greece	7	148
22. Hungary	—	38
23. Iceland	9	347
24. India	449	10,718
25. Indonesia	14	418
26. Ireland, North	3	34
27. Ireland, Rep. of	1	12
28. Italy	49	977
29. Mexico	19	262
30. Netherlands	16	551
31. New Zealand	14	1,439
32. Norway	5	48
33. Pakistan	—	—
34. Peru	2	39
35. Philippines	13	368
36. Portugal	12	228
37. Puerto Rico	—	—
38. Scotland	6	141
39. Slovenia	3	57
40. Spain	—	—
41. Sri Lanka	3	57
42. Sweden	6	211
43. Switzerland	7	124
44. USA	128	4,369
45. Uruguay	5	80
46. Venezuela	2	39
47. Wales	2	56
	1,012	29,291
<b>Lodges attached directly to Adyar</b>		
1. Comilla (Bangladesh)	1	—
2. Covenant Lodge (Israel)	1	39
3. Japan	3	75
4. Korea	1	21
5. Fellows at Large	—	46
	6	181



## THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

The Theosophical Publishing House brought out six new publications. Of these, *Does India have a Future?* by Rajmohan Gandhi and *Man and the Universe—A Quest* by Justice A.R. Bakshi were sent for review to *The Hindu*. *Does India have a Future?* received a favourable review and evoked a lot of response and orders. The review of the other book is awaited. Work is in hand to soon bring out *Teachings on Discipleship* by S.S. Varma and a high quality, copiously illustrated book on Adyar. The TPH has also reprinted 30 of its

publications.

The sales figures for the first half of this year indicate that the annual sales are likely to increase considerably.

The management is now engaged in a reorganization and modernization programme for absorption of new technologies in printing and publishing with a view to improve quality as well as achieve economic pricing.

LT. COL. NANDAN NILAKANTA  
Manager

## THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

The work of the Library has been going on as usual. It suffered a loss in the passing of Dr E.R. Sreekrishna Sarma, who was Curator of the Library from 1956-59, and again on its staff since 1984. Among his publications for the Adyar Library are *Manikana* and the *Descriptive Catalogue of Viswabharati MSS.* Prof. R. Thangaswami Sarma, a distinguished scholar, joined the Library on 22 September 1994.

The publications released during the year were *Brahmaavidya*, vol. 57, 1994, and the *Descriptive Catalogue of Tamil MSS.* in the Library, vol. 1.

The following works are in the press: *Chandogya Upanisad*, vol. 1, part 2; *Descriptive Catalogue of Jyotisa MSS* by Dr K.V. Sarma; and *Descriptive Catalogue of Tamil MSS.*, vol. 2. Four publications were reprinted,

namely *Tirukkural*; *Hathayoga-pradipika*; *Manamala*; and *Suktavall*.

Other reprints to be taken up in 1995 are: *Amarakosa*, vol.2; *Lalita-sahasranama*; *Introduction to Pancaratra*; and *Pancaratraraksa*.

Photocopies of 27,274 frames were supplied to research scholars and others and 594 books were bound in the Binding Section. Seven books were deacidified, totalling 600 leaves in all.

During the year, 3,792 books were accessed and 2,861 books catalogued and added to the holdings, including 2,000 microfilms donated by the Chicago University Library. Our thanks are due to TPH Wheaton for 10 books, TPH Adyar for 76 books and the President's Office for 10 books. We also thank the American Institute of Indian Studies who presented 1,044 books to the Adyar Library at a

function held in the Headquarters Hall on 24 November 1993, and Prof. R. Radhakrishnan, University of Calgary, who donated 1,617 books on philosophy, logic and psychology.

The Library has 611 registered members out of whom 336 are borrowers and 275 Readers. A total of 21,069 books and manuscripts were consulted, and 5,782 books were borrowed.

Several research scholars from

overseas and India utilized the facilities of the Library, including 4 from the UK, 3 from USA, 4 from Japan, 1 from Brazil, 1 from the Netherlands, 1 from France, 1 from Israel, and 1 from Russia. Indian scholars were from Madras, Calicut, Tirupati, Baroda and Trivandrum universities.

MRS PARVATI GOPALARATNAM  
Acting Librarian

### THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

As usual two sessions of the School of the Wisdom were held at Adyar. The January-March 1994 session attracted about forty students from thirteen countries besides several from various parts of India, Australia, Austria, Brazil, England, Germany, Indonesia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Switzerland and USA. It began with two courses by Miss Ianthe Hoskins from 6-14 January on *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy* in the mornings and *The Key to Theosophy* in the afternoons. From 17 January, Miss Mary Anderson, Secretary of the European Federation, took up the theme 'Man: His Origin and Evolution' which consisted of a

study of Anthropogenesis from the Stanzas of *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Voice of the Silence*. These courses by both speakers were very much appreciated.

The October-December 1994 session of the School was directed by Mr Rohit Mehta, well-known lecturer. His theme was 'The Doctrine of the Heart'. Thirty-seven students from several countries and many parts of India participated in the ten-week session, in which stress was laid on the mystical approach of different religious traditions, science and J. Krishnamurti. In the afternoons several speakers discussed various aspects of theosophical teachings and TS work.

### MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

Mrs Izar Tauceda joined the staff last year. She is systematically preparing a card catalogue. The documents are now placed in acid-free handmade paper envelopes to avoid deterioration. The work is likely to continue for some

years. A new catalogue has also been prepared for museum articles.

Service was provided to research scholars when needed.

MR S.S. VARMA  
Officer-in-Charge

## OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

The different activities of the Olcott Education Society continued through the Olcott Memorial High School: the Banyan Centre for Educators, the HPB Free Hostel and the Social Welfare Centre. Construction of a new hostel building and an assembly-cum-prayer hall for the school was undertaken.

### Olcott Memorial High School

A change was made in the status of the school from a government-aided institution to a non-fee-paying private school entirely financed by the TS. In July/August 1993 the Government transferred the teachers and staff paid by them and they were replaced by 34 new teachers and six non-teaching staff. Major Arjun Gopalaratnam was appointed as Secretary of the School in the place of Sri K. Viswanathan with effect from 1 March 1994 and Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan took charge as Headmistress on 25 April 1994.

Emphasis is being laid on all-round education, with sports, scouting, environment, crafts, drama, etc. as part of the programme. Dr K.G. Rama is planning to give career guidance. Training was imparted to the teachers by Mr V.S. Nataraj, architect, and some sessions were held under the guidance of Dr. Ramanujam of 'Mat Science' on language and mathematics education. In order to restart scout groups some teachers were sent for a scout training camp.

During the year we had a total of 781 students, comprising 507 boys and 274 girls. About 50 students

appeared for the school final examination held in March 1994.

The free breakfast scheme for the primary children continues to be supported by the generosity of TS members and sympathisers. Clothes, books, etc. were also provided free to them. The government is providing free midday meals as heretofore.

### Banyan Centre for Educators

The Centre has been very active, conducting a variety of programmes. Seminars and discussions dealt with building skills and nourishing intelligence in the child; curriculum load-shedding; meaningfulness in work; etc. There were four workshops for teachers on maths teaching, theatre and science through games. The year's work was very successful.

### HPB Hostel

During the year there were 20 students in the hostel. Smt. L. Seethalakshmi was appointed as Warden of the Hostel from January 1994 in the place of Smt. Dhanalakshmi Murugesan.

### Social Welfare Centre

The Centre continued its good work under the able guidance of Smt. Swarnagouri Govindaraj. There were 152 children in the two creches and one Balwadi. Products of the tailoring and weaving section had a brisk sale during the International Convention. The free dispensary caters to the poor in the neighbourhood.

### Higher Education for Girls

Financial assistance was granted to 32 girl students of the Olcott Memorial High School and other nearby institutions for education beyond

school level from the donation of Mrs Ingiborg Olafsdottir of Reykjavik, Iceland.

MR N. JANAKIRAM  
*Secretary*

## THE THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

The Theosophical Order of Service offers a rallying point for those for whom Theosophy represents a dynamic force for social transformation. It serves as a framework in which people may demonstrate practical and humanitarian action in a theosophical spirit, and acts as a forum whereby members may inform themselves about affairs of public interest.

Over this past year, a review of the TOS's presence throughout the theosophical world has been made. The TOS is at present officially active in at least fifteen countries and regions, its strength and dynamism, and the nature of its undertakings, varying considerably: East & Central Africa, South Africa, West Africa, Australia, Brazil, Costa Rica, England, France, India, Italy Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, USA and Wales.

A number of TS sections have expressed interest in activating or reactivating TOS groups, or else in keeping in touch with the international TOS through its new bulletin, *The Service Link*.

*The Service Link* is a biannual publication addressed to members and friends of the Theosophical Society worldwide dedicated to the upliftment of society and the protection of the planet. It brings news of Theosophy made *practical*. Reports of TOS activities in the different countries are carried in this publication, a complimentary copy of which may be requested through its editorial address: TOS, 9 Avenue de la Republique, 93420 Villepinte, France.

MRS DIANA DUNNINGHAM CHAPOTIN  
*International Secretary*



**REPORTS FROM  
SECTIONS, NATIONAL SOCIETIES,  
REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS,  
PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVES, ETC.**

**(Where necessary, reports have been translated,  
edited or condensed.)**



## REPORTS OF GENERAL SECRETARIES

### AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

THIS Section comprises Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia. There are seven active lodges in Kenya, six in Zambia and two in Tanzania with a total Section membership of 614. There has been a considerable drop in membership in Tanzania and Zambia.

Lodge meetings are held twice a week at Nairobi, Nakuru and Dar-es-Salaam with one meeting for English-speaking members and the other for Gujarati/Hindi-speaking members. All the lodges conducted studies on various theosophical books. There were also public lectures on a variety of subjects. Nairobi Lodge organized a 'Beginners Seminar'.

The National Lecturer, Mr Reuben Thuku's work was mainly concentrated in the schools and institutions of learning in Kenya. He also appeared on the television

programme 'Perspectives' which resulted in a number of enquiries, and his talks were broadcast on the radio.

The Section and Lodge constitutions were revised to conform to the Rules of the International Society.

The bookstall is well stocked and booksales are good. *The Theosophist* continues to be distributed to 16 state-run libraries, 4 state-run universities and 4 local newspapers in Kenya. Several lodges are active in TOS work, including payment of school fees for needy children, distribution of food and clothing, medicines, etc. to orphanages and homes of elderly and handicapped people. Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam lodges hold monthly healing sessions.

MR BHUPENDRA R. VORA  
General Secretary

### AFRICA, SOUTHERN

WE are pleased to report that the level of political unrest in the main centres is reduced except in Natal. In order to herald the advent of the new dispensation we invited Mr Reuben Thuku from the East and Central African Section as guest speaker at our national Easter convention held in Capetown, with the theme 'To Investigate the Third Object: The Realization of our Full Potential'. The public lectures by Reuben Thuku in Capetown and Pretoria were well

received and attendance was good.

I was very well received in the Harare Lodge in Zimbabwe during my visit there in May 1994 to give talks and meet members. We are strengthening ties with East and West African Sections, so that this will be a base for a new African Federation.

Our TOS work has been mainly in the form of work with prisoners, general counselling and contributing to an 'Aids for Africa' project to investigate tribal and alternative

medicinal methods of treating the disease.

In spite of the difficulties being experienced at present, we are still confident that things will improve in this region. A general feeling of

optimism is pervading the region which we hope and trust will benefit all materially and spiritually.

MR T. G. DAVIS  
*General Secretary*

### AFRICA, WEST

Our long-awaited headquarters building in Accra became a reality during the year, members having sacrificed much in order to complete the construction. It is well situated and very accessible.

The General Secretary and other older members continued to visit the Lodges and Centres in Ghana. The annual convention was held at Accra 1-3 July 1994. The fourth TS Workers Course was conducted by Mr I.K. Zaney, 5-6 March in which Prof. K. Asare Poku of the University of Ghana also gave lectures on African culture and spiritual development.

The Two language version of *At the Feet of the Master*, launched on 17 November 1993, is selling well. Sale of other TS books continued to attract the public.

The political conditions in Nigeria, Liberia and the Cameroons have been difficult, but TS work is being carried on. There has been a decline in membership during the year due to the difficult economic conditions. It now stands at 352 in 27 Lodges and Centres.

MR PAUL B. KAWKYI  
*General Secretary*

### AMERICA, CENTRAL

The situation in Central America is improving in some aspects, but violence is always a worry. I try to do my duty as General Secretary as best I can, but for lack of finance I am unable to visit the lodges in different countries. The Section is composed of lodges in Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Each lodge holds study meetings at least once a week. In addition, there are meetings to explain theosophical principles to

potential members. Each lodge has celebrated all theosophical anniversaries. The General Secretary has been in constant communication with the lodges, sending them theosophical news and articles. Three hundred copies of C.W. Leadbeater's pamphlet *To Those who Mourn* were printed and distributed.

MISS CARMEN AGUILAR ALVAREZ  
*General Secretary*

## ARGENTINA

A number of Youth Camping Activities were held at the Theosophical Colony of San Rafael on the theme 'Peace and Violence' between 26 January and 5 February 1994 in which 25 youngsters from different parts of Argentina participated. Mr Juan Viñas coordinated the activities.

This was followed by the Summer School at the same venue from 5-12 February on the theme 'Listening to Life's Song' including lectures, round table meetings, workshops, etc. Sixty-five members attended. Between 10-16 July a Spiritual Retreat was held, attended by 40 people and directed by Mr Juan Cassibba, on the teachings of the *Bhagavad Gita*.

Theosophical literature was exhibited at two International Book Fairs (in Buenos Aires and Cordoba) when in addition to book sales 20,000 leaflets on the TS and its programmes were distributed to the public.

Lodges have been holding study courses, seminars and public lectures

on a variety of topics, helped by national lecturers. Mrs Radha Burnier visited the Section from April 20-27 and gave public lectures, seminars and talks to members in Buenos Aires and Rosario.

Scholarships were granted to members to attend the 'Theosophy Basic Course' in San Bernardo. Uruguayan Section National Council members attended our summer school and meetings during Mrs Radha Burnier's visit. The Section journal *Cambios* was published regularly with more pages. A special section on work in Uruguay has been included in *Cambios* and sent to every member of the Uruguayan Section.

Another activity of the Section is 'Circles for Peace' coordinated by Mrs Nora Spairani to encourage work for Peace by means of small meditation groups. These circles are open to non-members as well.

MISS SILVIA BLAJER  
General Secretary

## AUSTRALIA

Much has happened during the past year that should cause us to rejoice with our accomplishments and also to recognize how very much is still to be done if we are to fulfil the Society's mission. The annual convention held in Melbourne had the theme 'The Science of Inner Transformation' with Dr Ravi Ravindra from Canada as

guest speaker. His penetrating insights made the Convention a memorable experience. Among visitors who made lecture tours were Alan Hughes from London and Willamay Pym from the USA. Supplementing them were Bev Champion, Shirley Macpherson and Erica Patient. I also undertook a complete 'go-around' of all our



branches as well as attended the 1993 International Convention at Adyar and the annual convention in New Zealand.

Arising out of a long-felt need in the Section, the first Australian School of Theosophy was held from 9-16 April in which 25 members participated. A Theosophical Education and Retreat Centre was started at a eleven-acre site in Springbrook, in south-eastern Queensland. The property has all facilities like a meeting hall and fully equipped kitchen. On the opening day, 14 August 1994, some 75 members were present.

An updated list of audio and video tapes and reading lists with 16 subject categories were sent to every lodge and group. I prepared a mini-course on the Three Objects of the Society, and sent this to every lodge, which is found useful. A number of publicity leaflets were also sent to the lodges. A new pamphlet 'What is Theosophy?' was issued, as well as a larger booklet 'The Secret Doctrine: Its Study and Practical Application'. The series of Letters to New Members was thoroughly revised and expanded from 18 to 22. Our Correspondence Course programme was also expanded during the year. Shirley Macpherson undertook a complete revision of the course material, based on the book by Eunice and Felix Layton, *Life: Your Great Adventure*.

Our quarterly journal *Theosophy in Australia* is a central link between

Headquarters and the lodges and members.

Activities in lodges and groups range from study classes, forums, public lectures, seminars, members' meetings and workshops to informal discussions and casual gatherings. Membership now totals 1,397 a gain of 42 over the previous year. Generosity of members enabled us to send to Adyar over \$8,000 for the Olcott Memorial School.

Dr Hugh Murdoch continues to serve as convenor of the Theosophy-Science Group, which holds regular meetings in Blavatsky Lodge. He also publishes a quarterly newsletter for the Group. Many of the lodge reports refer to activities under the TOS. During the Convention there was a major public forum under the TOS auspices on 'What are the Family's Resources and Responsibilities in a Changing World?' with several speakers. The Order of the Round Table is also active with several Tables.

We can, we must, devote head, hand and heart to bringing about a positive, spiritual atmosphere in the world about us, lighting candles of hope in all the dark places of despair, transforming hatred into love, ignorance into understanding, sorrow into joy. Let us make this task our resolve as we enter upon our centenary year.

MISS JOY MILLS  
General Secretary

## AUSTRIA

During the past year work went on as usual. Lectures and study groups were held in our three branches at Vienna, Graz and Linz. In August our annual Summer School was held in Rohrbach. It was a smaller gathering this year as only 20 participants were able to come. The theme was 'The Unity of Life' and various lectures and short

talks with discussions were given. The guests enjoyed the more familiar atmosphere this year and as the weather was fine were able to get to know the beautiful landscape of Upper Austria.

MRS. MARGARET LAUPPERT  
*General Secretary*

## BELGIUM

Report not received on time

## BRAZIL

Our national section was most happy to welcome Mrs Radha Burnier at the beginning of a ten-country tour of Latin America. She gave public lectures and members' talks at several cities—Rio de Janeiro, Brasilia, Sao Paulo and Porto Alegre. Everybody was happy and grateful for the generous effort made by our President.

In the national election Mr Alfredo Puig Figueroa was chosen to be General Secretary and Mr Ricardo Lindemann as Vice-General Secretary. Mr Ulisses Riedel de Resende completed two terms of office as General Secretary, the highlights of whose tenure were the holding of the Eighth World Congress of the TS in Brasilia in 1993 and the acquisition of a large farm for the Institute of Theosophy of Brasilia.

The Department of Culture arranged the Summer School from 22-28 January and the Winter Seminar from 27-31 July. At the national

headquarters public lectures are held on Saturdays with good attendance.

Membership records were computerized and special correspondence is being exchanged with members-at-large who also receive the newsletter and the Section journal. The Section arranged regular visits by national lecturers to lodges and study groups in different parts of the country where lectures and seminars were held with previous publicity and good attendance.

The TPH in Brazil published several titles in Portuguese. A quarterly newsletter for members and the Section journal *Teosofista* which appears thrice a year were also published. Many devoted members are active in TOS work in Brasilia, where they run a small orphanage, and in Porto Alegre, Sao Paulo and Belem.

MR ALFREDO PUIG FIGUEROA  
*General Secretary*

## CHILE

The annual convention of the TS in Chile was held on 24 July when the General Secretary, Mr Carlos Ramirez Lohaus was re-elected for another term. A new bookstore named 'Sophia' was inaugurated by the International President, Mrs Radha Burnier, during her visit at the end of April. She was accompanied by Mrs Dolores Gago from Uruguay, who served as her interpreter. The week-long visit left us with inspiration to continue more ardently with the theosophical work.

There are two study groups in Santiago. The library was augmented through the donations of members. The translation of books, articles and

videos into Spanish continued.

We have a weekly radio broadcast in Radio Portales, a monthly newsletter of activities in which some articles are also published, and our quarterly journal *Revista Teosofica Chilena*. Posters and leaflets are sent to libraries and universities.

There is a Basic Course in Theosophy open to the public and week-end meetings and video shows. A workshop was started for members based on I.K. Taimni's *Principles of Theosophical Work*.

MR CARLOS RAMIREZ LOHAUS  
General Secretary

## COLOMBIA

Several courses were held on basic Theosophy in different lodges including one on 'Self-Realization through Love' based on Narada Bhakti Sutras. New members were briefed in a day-long programme on 27 February 1994 with sixty participants. The 72nd anniversary of the Section was celebrated in a week-long programme of group discussion, a photo exhibition and public lectures as well as a musical concert and two theatre plays. Several workshops on meditation were

also held for training lecturers at different levels.

Mrs Radha Burnier's visit 5-6 May 1994, her public lectures and group discussion provided inspiration for the members. The General Secretary visited various lodges in the section; also lodges in Venezuela to help in reorganizing TS work as well as give public lectures.

MISS MARIELA LASSO SALAS  
General Secretary

## CUBA

Our annual convention was held 15-16 January 1994 on the theme 'The TS before the Challenge of the

Contemporary World'. From 18-22 May we received the visit of our International President, Mrs Radha

Burnler, who gave three public lectures and three members' meetings—all translated into Spanish by Mrs Dolores Gago from Uruguay. Sister Dolores continued with us for another week afterwards and spoke to members at three meetings. As a result of their visits and talks we reorganized the activities of the lodges to include a basic course on Theosophy for aspirants to

membership and meetings for members only devoted to study of theosophical literature, including *Human Regeneration*. Another visitor during the year was Brother Rodolfo Don, a Cuban living in California, who donated some books and gave several talks. All theosophical anniversaries were celebrated in Havana.

MRS LELIA FERNANDEZ PAGOLA  
General Secretary

### ENGLAND

A very intensive programme of lectures, workshops and seminars continues to be held at our Headquarters and there is at least one meeting every day and on some days there are two or three meetings. These range from a *Secret Doctrine* class held weekly; three classes on meditation from beginners to advanced; an enquirer's class on Theosophy; and video shows in the afternoons. Our lecturers this year have included Professor Krishna from Varanasi, Dr Robert Bonelli of Long Beach, California, and Dr Yves Marcel from France. Average numbers attending Sunday evening lectures were fifty people. A variety of workshops continue to be held on Saturday afternoons.

This year's Summer School was once again held at Leicester University. There were nearly 80 fulltime and other day visitors. A public lecture was held in Leicester during the week arranged with the assistance of the new Leicester Lodge, with nearly fifty people attending. We took our usual stand at the Festival

for Mind, Body and Spirit held in London in May.

Our bimonthly *Journal* was published regularly. Miss Ianthe Hoskins is producing a *Forum* newsletter six times a year for unattached members, who number 803 out of a total membership of 1,425. Two new lodges have been started as well as a new Centre at Headquarters for young people.

*Theosophical Books Ltd*: Having theosophical books in the headquarters building has proved very popular. A metaphysical book fair was held over a twelve-day period with Mr. Geoffrey Farthing, Prof. Arthur Ellison etc., lecturing on their books.

*Tekels Park*: Tekels Park has again had several residential study weekends, including a *Secret Doctrine* study weekend, a science group meeting and meetings of members from the Southern and North-West areas of England. The European School of Theosophy was also held there.

MISS LILIAN STOREY  
General Secretary



## FINLAND

Public lectures were organized in Helsinki every Sunday during the winter. In summer the lectures were held every other Sunday. In the countryside lectures were held once or twice a month. In Tallinn and other cities in Estonia lectures were held at least once a month. We also had an elementary course on Theosophy every other Tuesday in the autumn.

The Summer School was held in our beautiful Kreivila 24 June to 1 July with Prof. Ravi Ravindra as chief guest on the theme 'The Ageless Wisdom—Answer to Present Challenges'. In addition to lectures on the need for inner transformation there were discussions and workshops.

The Section celebrated all theosophical anniversaries. Several members visited and lectured in Tallinn, Estonia, before large

audiences. The HPB lodge there organized monthly public lectures. The Finnish Section now has a membership of 511 in 23 lodges and two study groups. Our journal *Teosofi* is issued six times a year. Mrs Radha Burnier's *Human Regeneration* was published in Finnish. The library was open every Tuesday evening during the winter. Extensive repairs have been carried out in the headquarters building and in our summer-course centre.

A book on Damodar's letters has been translated into Finnish with a short biography. About 135 participants enjoyed the midsummer fest on 23 June including three visitors from Estonia and one from Sweden.

MRS KIRSTI ELO  
General Secretary

## FRANCE

The French Section now has 715 members and 32 lodges. Several study sessions were held, especially in the south of France to bring new life to the work there. The new video film on Adyar and photographs were shown in many places to make members more aware of their link with the International Headquarters.

At the headquarters in Paris, study courses on Saturdays and public lectures on Sundays have been going on regularly. The TOS is very active. Our magazine *Le Lotus Bleu* is issued regularly and is appreciated by readers

inside and outside the Section.

The French-speaking regional summer school was held at a scenic spot from 31 August-7 September on the theme 'The Universe, the Earth and Man', with formal lectures by experienced members, study groups, and morning talks delivered by new and younger members. Ninety members gathered from Belgium, France and Italy and had an enjoyable and purposeful week in wonderful, quiet surroundings.

The General Secretary has started a laborious plan for the decentralization



of the administration of the TS and the two 'commercial' societies which have been founded to serve the purpose of the TS. He hopes this will result in greater cooperation of workers, and

will help to reverse the downward trend of membership.

PROF. C.T. PHAN  
General Secretary

## GERMANY

The work of lodges and study groups continued intensively. Beside introductory courses for new members public talks were delivered. The books most studied in addition to *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Mahatma Letters* were works by HPB, Joy Mills and Norbert Lauppert. The North and South German study gatherings taking place in the spring and autumn every year are well attended.

It was possible to develop contacts with the former East Germany. The two members at Rostock and one at Dresden are hoping to build new centres where theosophical thoughts and action could gently be imparted.

The eighth German-language School for Theosophy was held 7-11 October 1993 at Michelstadt with 20 participants. Practical ways of

teaching and presenting Theosophy at lodges and in the social environment were discussed. The Summer School at St. Martin from 28 July to 3 August on the theme 'Challenges of our Time' had Dr Yves Marcel from France as guest speaker.

The 'Adyar' Publishing House brought out several reprints and two special editions on 'Theosophy and Buddhism' and 'Parliament of the World Religions'. Several other books are being printed or planned, including *In the Outer Court* by Annie Besant and *The Key to Theosophy* by HPB.

We had a slight decrease in membership which now stands at 225.

GER BARON V.D. OSTEN SACKEN  
General Secretary

## GREECE

No Report

## ICELAND

There was a slight increase in our programmes and attendance at meetings. Public lectures are held every Friday. In addition there is a variety of study and practice available for those who want to go into

self-culture and meditation. Two eight-week self-culture/meditation courses for beginners were held on Tuesday evenings. At the end of the spring course, the sixth in three years, attendance went up to 330 persons,

almost all of them newcomers. This has helped attendance at other meetings as well.

Due to the very expensive restoration of the headquarters, the publishing sector has had little activity during the past few years. To compensate, a series of pamphlets and mini-booklets were launched. Our journal *Gangleri* is packed with 96 pages of spiritual food twice a year and enjoys a circulation of 1,200.

There was a record attendance of 60 at our summer school from 23-27 June with Dr Yves Marcel from France

as guest speaker. We now have a membership of about 370. Many young people are attending and partaking in the work, giving the section a push of vitality. We have to make Theosophy practical as well as sensible to the average people. There are all kinds of movements competing on the spiritual market in Iceland today. People need practical solutions to the psychological problems coming from today's unwholesome attitudes.

MR EINAR ADALSTEINSSON  
General Secretary

## INDIA

During the year there was a continuation of the programmes to mark the centenary of Annie Besant's arrival in India. The Government of India's Film Division released a documentary on her through its nation-wide theatre circuit. The Section headquarters arranged several programmes jointly with Banaras Hindu University and the Krishnamurti Foundation India. India's television and All-India Radio broadcast programmes.

Another event of the year was the Presidential election in which members voted overwhelmingly in favour of Mrs Radha Burnier's re-election for a third seven-year term as International President.

Membership increased to 10,718 a gain of 77 over the previous year. The Section now has 449 lodges and centres. Study camps were held in various places as in earlier years. The

71st Easter Theosophical Conference was held at Adyar. Two special issues of our monthly journal *The Indian Theosophist* were published, one on the Annie Besant Centenary and the other on the theme 'Religion is the Path to Wisdom'. The Section journal in English goes out to about 5,500 members while several other journals in Indian languages are also published.

Theosophical books are published in Indian languages by several Federations. Translations into Hindi of *Human Regeneration* and Annie Besant's *In the Outer Court* are ready.

Extensive renovation of several buildings was undertaken and computer capacity at the headquarters was increased.

Ten National Lecturers travelled widely and helped promotional work. The annual conferences of the Federations had the International President, Vice-President and

International Secretary as well as the General Secretary as Chief Guests. Communication and contacts with Federations and members were

developed, resulting in better understanding of the problems.

MR M.P. SINGHAL  
General Secretary

## INDONESIA

The annual Convention was held 11-13 July 1994 attended by 70 members from 11 of the 15 lodges. The theme was 'Wisdom towards Life in Balance'. As previously reported the most active youth group is in Surabaya with 21 members and 10 others in sympathy. During the annual convention Sister Pranawati gave a talk on her visit to Adyar to attend the School of the Wisdom, supplemented by Bro. Matius Ali. Two new study groups were formed.

Dr C.V. Agarwal visited us from 29 August to 9 September when he gave public lectures and talks to members in several lodges. Translations of two

theosophical manuals were published with funds donated by the TS in Australia: *The Astral Plane* and *Reincarnation*. Another, *the Devachanic Plane* is being translated. Our journal *Theosophy* is now published bi-monthly instead of quarterly.

We participated in a national symposium on 'Spiritual/Traditional Cultures' organized in Jakarta by the Ministry of Education and Culture 5-7 October 1993 along with six other groups. Our Society has been asked to participate in the 1995 symposium as well.

MR H.M. SOESISWO  
General Secretary

## ITALY

The work in the Italian Section went on regularly during the year. We have 49 lodges and 977 members. There were 106 admissions during the year, but overall there was a decrease of 137 in membership. Our journal *Rivista Italiana di Teosofia* which celebrated the 50th year of its publication, came out regularly and has a circulation of 1,100, with subscriptions also by public libraries.

The Theosophical week and seminar

was held in March at Recoaro with Mrs Audoin and Miss Kim Dieu as guest speakers with about 60 participants including several from Slovenia. The theme was 'The Modernity of the Eternal Teaching'.

*Chakras* by CWL was reprinted during the year to meet increasing demand. Sale of theosophical books was good.

The basic problem of our Section, and perhaps also of other Sections, is to

awaken the public to the importance of the aims of the TS, because people seem unable to understand them and their practical side in order to create a new world order, without which mankind is

heading for a catastrophe foreseen by HPB.

MR EDOARDO BRATINA  
General Secretary

## MEXICO

The year represented accomplishments for the Mexican Section. Work included lectures, courses and special events. There were courses on Basic Theosophy in Mexico City, Puebla and Guadalajara. The National Headquarters held a course on *The Secret Doctrine*. A Winter School was held 21-22 November 1993 on the topic 'The Teachings of HPB and Her Masters'.

The visit of Mrs Radha Burnier, International President in May provided great inspiration to the members. She gave three public lectures and held three members' meetings. I visited lodges in Costa Rica and presented them with all the issues of *Atma-vidya*. Also spoke at Dharma Lodge on HPB's teachings.

One thousand copies of *Atma-vidya* are printed quarterly and distributed to members as well as other Sections in Latin America and Spain. We have also arranged to distribute it through a commercial bookseller.

The TPH published a translation of Robert Bowen's notes on *How to Study Theosophy*. Other publications getting ready for printing are the essential chapters of *Isis Unveiled* and *The Secret Doctrine* in a new Spanish translation together with 133 pages of explanations and articles to help the students understand the texts; and a pamphlet on HPB's five letters to the American Conventions.

MR CARLOS LOPEZ CERDAN RIPOLL  
General Secretary

## NETHERLANDS

Most lodges and centres meet once a week or once every two weeks. Several have study groups. We are planning to start a national study group in Amsterdam. Several activities are organized at the International Theosophical Centre in Naarden. Our TPH published *The Wholeness Principle* by Anna Lemkov in Dutch, and *Living in Wisdom* by Joy Mills in

English. Several other books have been translated and are ready for printing, including *Human Regeneration* by Mrs Radha Burnier, 'The Central Work of the TS', a lecture by Mrs Burnier and a brochure 'Yama and Niyama'.

We are helping one group in the Czech Republic to start a branch of the TS there.



We have the impression that more and more people are interested in Theosophy at the moment. We have been interviewed by a national newspaper and a regional one and invited by several groups to talk about

the TS. Our books and publications are well received, but only attract serious people.

MS ALI RITSEMA  
General Secretary

## NEW ZEALAND

About seventy members attended the ninety-seventh annual convention. The guest speaker was Miss Joy Mills whose addresses and presentation were as usual of high standard. Two panel discussions and workshops enabled more members to become involved and members enjoyed delightful outings on nearby Lake Taupo.

Thirty members attended the annual Queen's Birthday weekend workshop and had an enjoyable learning experience for those three days. The suitcase bookshops operated by branches and the expanding video library continue to be popular. The postal library is also doing good work. Our journal *Theosophy in New*

Zealand has been maintained at a high standard of presentation and content.

Other overseas speakers included Mr Norman Hankin in March and April, and Mr Pedro Oliveira, International Secretary in August. The latter visited all branches and his lectures were highly appreciated.

There was also a family camp during the year held over the Easter weekend which was a great success as usual. Our monthly meetings at Headquarters have continued with speakers and/or videos. We now have a membership of 1,439.

MR HUGH DIXON  
General Secretary

## NORWAY

The major event of this year was Prof. P. Krishna's visit to Oslo from 10-12 June when he gave a public lecture and conducted a two-day seminar. The last evening a meeting was held with intellectuals in Oslo, basically from the university. His visit was a great success and it gave us an opportunity

to cooperate with the Krishnamurti group in Oslo.

The meeting activities have been working well, as also our magazine, in which HPB's Meditation Diagram was printed in Norwegian. It was used at meetings in a new approach.

We have updated our membership



records and the revised Section rules were approved by Adyar. We look forward to Mrs Radha Burnier's visit in July 1995 on her way to the European Congress in Sweden. We

hope many of our members will participate in this congress.

MR TORSTEIN A. TOBIASSEN  
General Secretary

## PHILIPPINES

Four new study groups were started during the year bringing the total to eight. With the existing 13 lodges and 8 study groups, we now have a total membership of 368. Many public lectures were held both in Metro Manila and in the provinces, focusing on the applied aspects of Theosophy in daily life.

To reorient membership education we have developed a Theosophical Core Curriculum focusing more on the theosophical way of life than on the theoretical side. This curriculum has been introduced in the lodges and will be the basis of future courses and seminars. A formal training course for theosophical lecturers was also held.

Our Peace Centre joined hands with the Philippine Department of Education to develop a module for peace education in school grades 4,5 and 6. After it is tested in schools, it will become a required subject in these

grades throughout the country.

The TOS in the Philippines has been set up as a separate Foundation. It was the recipient of the Hamis Bronze Award of the Health Department for developing and implementing innovative approaches to health care. TOS work has now expanded to the provincial lodges also.

Our TPH published the chronological edition of *The Mahatma Letters* after several years of preparation. We have started the inputting of theosophical classics in computer format. *The Philippine Theosophist*, *Theosophical Digest* and other TS literature are also published by the TPH. The Bookshop increased its turnover and started branches in four other cities. We look forward to a steady growth of the Section in the coming years.

MR. VICENTE HAO CHIN, JR  
General Secretary

## PORTUGAL

The pattern of activities was similar to the previous years. We held public lectures and symposia every fortnight and branch meetings every week. We also commemorated all theosophical anniversaries.

Unfortunately, nobody from our Section could attend the Iberian Theosophical Week in Spain last August. We were glad to receive the visit of Mr Juan Viñas, who spoke to about thirty members in a very

fraternal atmosphere. We lost 27 members by death, lapsings, etc and gained 17 new ones.

Our journal *Portugal Teosofico* is published four times a year. We are

trying to improve our work of diffusing theosophical ideals.

DR MARIA G. NOBRE SANTOS  
General Secretary

### PUERTO RICO

No Report

### SPAIN

No Report

### SRI LANKA

The Section introduced some new features for wider publicity of Theosophy and its teachings such as the publication of a quarterly Newsletter, sending articles to newspapers and printing a booklet 'Theosophy—Divine Wisdom' for free distribution. Our premier lodge holds monthly members' meetings for study of theosophical literature and exchange of views and ideas, particularly to emphasize the importance of converting our ideas into practical use. These have had a beneficial effect on the participants. The number of active lodges is now only three. However steps are being

taken to revive three inactive lodges.

The visit of Dr. C.V. Agarwal, Presidential Representative for South-east Asia, in September 1994, when he gave several lectures and a television interview, provided inspiration to the members and others. He also delivered the annual Olcott Memorial Lecture at Ananda College and spoke at a meeting to mark the 130th birth anniversary of Anagarika Dharmapala.

We look forward optimistically to creating a greater awareness of Theosophy and its teachings

MR G.J.R. SAMARASINGHA  
General Secretary

### SWEDEN

Six lodges have had activities including many lectures on various theosophical themes and also study groups, taking up *At the Feet of the Master*, *Theosophy in Everyday Life*,

*Basic Ideas of Theosophy and Conception of Life*. Two lodges celebrated their centenary in November 1993. One member attended the School of the Wisdom at Adyar

and two participated in the Naarden seminars.

In October 1993 a mini-school was held at Boson near Stockholm on the theme 'Meditation and Mysticism' with Dr Dmitri Spivak from St. Petersburg as guest speaker. The theme of the summer school 1994, attended by 39 members and directed by Prof. P. Krishna, was 'From Knowledge to Truth'. Other speakers were Curt Berg, Hans Liljenstrom and Flemming Hansen.

Work is proceeding on translation of some theosophical books. John Algeo's *Reincarnation* was published in Swedish with financial help from the Non-English Publications Fund. 'Science and Religion', a lecture of Prof. Krishna, was also printed. Our bookshop in Stockholm has been active with the help of voluntary workers.

MRS ING-BRITT WIKLUND  
General Secretary

### SWITZERLAND

The Swiss Section has seven lodges, six in Geneva and one in Basel. Some lodges are rather weak, including that at Basel. Our Section has now 124 members. In Geneva, as is the practice for some years, a basic course of Theosophy is held twice a month by Lise Eichenberger. In Zurich, a new group continues to grow and it is expected that the lodge there will be reopened after several years of closure. Public meetings are held twice or thrice a month in Geneva and the programme is regularly sent to over 6,000 addresses.

A new activity during the past year was a second-hand book sale on selected subjects close to Theosophy organized by Elisa Krahenbuhl. This has proved an excellent opportunity to hold discussions around theosophical issues over a cup of tea. Someone introduces the theme of the day and then a wide discussion follows. These gatherings enable us to better inform the public of who we are. Last year's proceeds of this activity was sent to the Olcott School at Adyar.

MME ELIANE GAILLARD  
General Secretary

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The TS in America has had a busy and productive year in its lodges, study centres, camps, federations and national Headquarters at Olcott. Local groups offer varied and innovative programmes that reach out to the communities around them to present

Theosophy to members and the public. Ten national speakers gave more than sixty programmes at lodges and study centres around the country including public lectures and workshops. In addition every group was sent without charge the video *The Mahatmas and*

*Their Letters* and a copy of the study course *An Introduction to the Mahatma Letters*. About fifty members attended the Summer School, much more than anticipated. Response from participants was very enthusiastic.

*The Quest* magazine continues to attract national and international attention—being distributed not only to all members in America, but also to those in the English and Australian sections. *The American Theosophist*, the official members' magazine, has been expanded from six to eight issues a year. *The Messenger* is a new periodical started during the year as a newsletter and study paper sent to all members-at-large as a membership benefit.

The Olcott Institute is the new educational arm of the American Section. Activities have included a twelve-week course on *The Key to Theosophy* offered by John Algeo and Tony Lysy, which proved to be very successful. Spiritual retreats are proposed to be held at Olcott and elsewhere for deepening the inner perception of Theosophy and its realization in living. Programmes at Krotona and the New York Lodge are also being offered in conjunction with the Olcott Institute—the first official extensions of the Institute outside Olcott. A number of other activities and programmes for the Olcott Institute are in the planning stages.

There has been a continuing decline in membership during the past several years, which now totals 4,358, of which fifty-seven percent are members-at-large. We are addressing

this situation with an initiative to start new local groups in the North-Central district where the largest number of members-at-large are to be found, and with increased services to members-at-large, for example the launch of *The Messenger*.

The TPH has been active during the year with several new publications and reprints. A major change in our operations during the year has been our association with Atrium Publishers Group as our exclusive distributor and marketing agent to the trade. They were able to increase our sales by nearly 32 percent over the previous year.

The Audio-Visual Department, in addition to its regular work, produced an audio book for TPH and is now working on another. In the planning stage are audio cassettes of the three theosophical spiritual classics. A documentary programme on Krotona is among the three new videos produced during the year.

The Kern Foundation provided special grants that enabled the Olcott Library to be professionally computerized and our Graphics Department to enter the modern world of desktop publishing with new equipment. It is a major supporting agency for our work in theosophical education.

The Society is its members. It is our members throughout the country who make everything happen by the generous donation, not only of money, but of time, energy, ideas, enthusiasm and dedication.

DR JOHN ALGEO  
National President



## URUGUAY

After the crisis that we went through in 1993 a new set of officers was elected which brought stability and a new enthusiasm to the work. Public lectures and seminars were held regularly on contemporary themes in the light of Theosophy like 'Theosophy and Ecology', 'Spirituality in the New Age' and 'Toward Creative Change'.

Members were very much encouraged by the visit of Mrs Radha

Burnier in April 1994 and her public lectures in Montevideo were very well attended. The Section also benefited by the visits of speakers from Argentina and Brazil. The weekly radio programme 'New Humanity' produced by two of our members continues to be broadcast.

MRS THELMA CESTA  
*General Secretary*

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## REPORTS OF REGIONAL SECRETARIES

### CANADA

During the year the main centre of activity has been Vancouver where Blavatsky Lodge held two public lectures in addition to its monthly members' meetings and twice-monthly study groups. In November, Mrs Dora Kunz gave a general talk on Theosophy and in March Mrs Dorothy Abbenhouse spoke on meditation. The lodge library has grown from 75 to 693 items, including many audio and video cassettes.

Other lodges are studying together in small groups. In October 1993, Dr

Ton Phan visited Montreal, where he gave a public lecture and also a weekend seminar for the Quebec members. I visited Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton lodges. Our magazine *The Light Bearer* is being very well received by members and surplus copies are being sent to enquirers. The Federation continues to progress slowly but steadily, with the membership increasing from 95 to 103 during the year.

MR HUGH JACKSON  
*Regional Secretary*

### IRELAND, NORTHERN

TS work in Northern Ireland is inevitably confined largely to the Belfast area. While we have individual contacts in several other places, to

whom we provide library service there is no way to maintain lodge or centre activities outside Belfast.

We held 29 public meetings during



the year, three of which were devoted to discussion and three to questions and discussion. Members' meetings have been held weekly, with study of several theosophical classics and some talks by Krishnamurti. We also had four recorded talks of Ianthe Hoskins.

Radha Burnier, Adelaide Gardner and Harry Upadhyaya. There is a distinctive quality of enrichment from occasionally hearing such personages.

MRS MARIE HENRY  
*Organizing Secretary*

### SLOVENIA

The Society is active in three lodges with 58 members. The lodges have two regular meetings a week—one for members and the other for the public. Lack of our own place to hold meetings and to accommodate our library has proved indeed to be a serious drawback. Lodge meetings discuss articles in *The Theosophist*, the works of Taimni, Krishnamurti and Jinarajadasa. Miss Mary Anderson paid two visits and enriched our work by her talks and vivid discussions.

*The Key to Theosophy* was published in 1,500 copies with help from the Non-English Publication Fund. CWL's *Chakras* was translated

and is now under print. The translation of *The Science of Yoga* by I.K. Taimni is ready and we are looking for a publisher. Our journal entitled *Teozofska Misel* is issued regularly thrice a year and has been well received by members and others.

In September we held a three-day Theosophical School on the theme 'Theosophy, the Inner Transformation of Man' attended by 42 members and interested persons. Speakers included Miss Mary Anderson, Mr Eduardo Bratina from Italy and Mr Hans Nickel from Austria.

MR ANTON JESSE  
*Regional Secretary*

### WALES

During the period attendance at the fortnightly public meetings were maintained at their previous good levels. Advertisements are now placed regularly in a suitable publication and the initial results indicate that this may be a good (if fairly expensive) way of publicizing information about the movement in Wales. The Cardiff Lodge has instituted a panel of experienced members to help new students in the early stages and it is hoped this will

encourage them to stay and develop their spiritual potential.

The Regional Secretary and the Hon. Vice-Presidents of the Cardiff Lodge once again attended the English Section's Summer School during August, when useful contacts were made with English and Scottish members.

MR MALCOLM TANNER  
*Regional Secretary*

## REPORTS OF PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVES

### ASIA, SOUTH-EAST

A special feature of the year was the visit by the Presidential Representative to several countries in this region—Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore, and Hong Kong. Singapore Lodge is the most active lodge in the region and is doing well under the leadership of Mrs Manize Sait. Efforts are under way to

regularize the work in Malaysia.

Bro. Pedro Oliveira, International Secretary, visited and lectured in Singapore and Selangor Lodge (Malaysia). His visit was much appreciated.

DR C.V. AGARWAL

*Presidential Representative*

### BOLIVIA

During the year the following activities took place:

Inter-lodge meetings of the four lodges in Cochabamba; Winter School on *The Voice of the Silence* with the participation of all lodges in Bolivia; two seminars, one conducted by Mr Juan Carlos Palmeri and Mrs Paulina Palmeri on 'Introduction to the Science of Yoga and Meditation' and another by Mr Juan Cassibba on *The Secret Doctrine*.

Public lectures were also held on the following subjects: 'Introduction to Theosophy', 'The Objects of the TS' and

'Fundamental Principles of Theosophy'. The former Presidential Representative, Mr Mario Cariaga Aramayo, passed away during the year.

Future plans include a Summer School in La Paz, encouraging the formation of study centres in Santa Cruz, Sucre and Oruro, and organizing TOS activities. Members also look forward to a visit by the International President, Mrs Radha Burnier, in the near future.

MRS TERESA W. DE NUNEZ

*Presidential Representative*

### DENMARK

We have 42 members of which 12 are lodge members. The White Lotus Lodge has regular meetings twice a month. They study *Thoughts for Aspirants* by N. Sri Ram and *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy* compiled by Ianthe Hoskins. Public

meetings are held twice a month in rented premises in a central part of Copenhagen. The public lectures are attended by 8 to 54 people.

A problem, however, is the competition from scores of small 'new-age' groups. They offer lectures

on 'exciting' subjects such as regression, how to meet your inner child, initiations nowadays, holistic meditation, channelling, soul-travels, clairvoyance, chakra-healing, etc. ad infinitum.

The lack of enthusiasm from certain members is disappointing to the very

few of us who are striving to re-establish the Danish Section. Everybody wants to receive but not to contribute. However, we are adamant in our endeavours and shall continue to do our best.

MRS EDEL SCHARSTEIN  
*Presidential Representative*

### HUNGARY

Two groups were busy during the year with the study of the fundamentals of Theosophy and 'Introduction to Meditation', altogether in 35 meetings. Visitors were welcomed from Canada, Holland, England and Rumania. Six monthly public lectures were organized in Budapest attracting 50-60 persons. There was lively questioning and books were sold. Apart from invitation to speak and to discuss Theosophy with various groups on twelve occasions and three lectures in different towns in Hungary, I was also invited to take part in meetings of scientists and others. I lectured at an International Forum on Esotericism,

the contributions to which will be published in book form. On this occasion I was also interviewed by Hungarian and Rumanian television. I also travelled to Rumania and Transylvania and delivered several lectures.

Several books in Hungarian were reprinted (2,000-3,000) copies: *Introduction to Yoga, Karma, The Ancient Wisdom and Practical Occultism*. The first number of a periodical *Teozofia* was published. Annie Besant's *Reincarnation* went through a second reprint of a thousand copies. We now have 38 members.

MR LASZLO REICHER  
*Presidential Representative*

### IRELAND, REPUBLIC OF

There is nothing much to report. We are meeting every Monday night. Usually our Secretary gives a talk or I do. There are also some tapes of talks

at Naarden—by Curt Berg, Radha Burnier and Prof. Krishna.

MRS WIN WOODS  
*Presidential Representative*

### PAKISTAN

No Report

## PERU

The seventieth anniversary of the founding of the TS in Peru was celebrated on 1 June 1994 when sister Marilla Andrade Pinto sent by the President of the Inter-American Federation gave a public lecture to an audience of 100 people. The International President Mrs Radha Burnier visited Peru earlier in May and her lecture attracted 150 persons. Both were held in rented halls in the centre of the city. Other public lectures were held in a room of one of our members in the old part of the city

where many people are afraid of coming. It is necessary to have a better and easily reached site in the cultural and economic centre of the city and efforts are on to collect funds for the same.

Lodges hold study courses on such themes as 'Practical Occultism', 'Esoteric Christianity', *The Secret Doctrine* and 'Self-renovation'. Book sales increased during the year.

MR JULIO GERARDO POMAR  
*Presidential Representative*

## SCOTLAND

The membership now stands at 141 with six lodges. Talks and discussions have focused on exploring the deeper aspects of Theosophy. The extensive library of Edinburgh Lodge is now undergoing a professional restructuring and BBC are to produce a documentary on this heritage library. In Glasgow public lectures were given once a month with varied guest speakers. There were also regular meditation classes. An exchange of speakers took place between Glasgow

and Edinburgh Lodges and the visitors have brought fresh insights to the Ancient Wisdom. Members from Glasgow, Edinburgh and the North of Scotland attended the English Summer School in 1994. Mr Alan Senior participated in an 'Eco-Spirituality' seminar at the English headquarters and also gave talks at Naarden in February 1994.

MRS MARGARET T. SENIOR  
*Presidential Representative*

## VENEZUELA

The TS in Venezuela celebrated its fortieth anniversary with a public lecture by Mr and Mrs Antonio Martinez from Colombia. Members were happy to have the International President, Mrs Radha Burnier, visit us

for three days. She was accompanied by Mrs Dolores Gago de Fuerte and Miss Mariela Lasso, General Secretary of the Colombian Section. The International President gave two public lectures and one talk to members,



Dolores Gago and Mariella Lasso conducted a workshop for members when a number of points were clarified regarding the administration of the TS. Miss Mariella Lasso returned to Venezuela in August for another workshop for members on the theme 'Self-knowledge, Study and Service' and 'The Essential Work of the TS' based on the printed text of the International President's talks to the

members in Colombia. During the workshop a number of items were discussed including membership records, charters of lodges, bylaws of the TS in Venezuela, payment of dues and annual report to be sent to Adyar. At present this Presidential Agency has two lodges and two study groups totalling 39 members.

MR EFRAIN ALVARES  
*Presidential Representative*

## REPORTS OF FEDERATIONS

### EUROPEAN FEDERATION

Our work in Eastern Europe is now indeed bearing fruit. A Presidential Representative and an Assistant Presidential Representative were appointed in Russia, and the work there entered upon a new and promising phase. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman made several trips to Russia and held seminars. Also, invitations were sent to young and promising workers from Russia and other Eastern European countries to attend Summer Schools, Seminars,

etc. in Western Europe where they made several contacts. Direct human contacts are vitally important and beneficial not only for our guests but also for us.

The European Council decided to hold the 1995 European Congress 22-29 July in Boson, Sweden, with Mrs Radha Burnier as the Guest of Honour and 'Towards Living Oneness' as the theme.

MR CURT BERG  
*Chairman*

### INDO-PACIFIC FEDERATION

The past year has been a very active one for the Federation, with its culmination in the coming triennial convention in Adyar. The President and Vice-President (Dr C.V. Agarwal) as well as several other representatives of the Federation visited various

sections and lodges in the region. It is hoped that this will be continued in the coming years in order to nurture the growth of the theosophical groups in these countries.

The Federation continues to issue the *Indo-Pacific Newsletter*. We also



sent a Resource Material List to all sections with instructions on how to request for such materials. It also sent entire sets of 24 monthly Letters to New Members to each of the member countries.

This year's triennial conference to be held in Adyar will be primarily devoted to planning theosophical work in the region. It hopes to lay the groundwork for a more extensive programme in the entire region.

In the past two years, substantive

efforts have been made to make the Federation an integrated whole, rather than just pockets of independent sections. Members of other sections should be encouraged to take part in the annual conference of neighbouring sections. The Federation should also focus on potential theosophical work in China, including translations in the Chinese language.

MR VICENTE HAO CHIN, JR.  
*President*

### INTER-AMERICAN FEDERATION

No Report

## REPORTS OF LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR

### COMILLA (BANGLADESH)

No Report

### HONG KONG

No Report

### TEL-AVIV (ISRAEL)

In the period under report we held four introductory courses and two advanced ones. Participation varied from five to sixteen each. Also, three one-day seminars were held in October 1993 and March and September 1994. The first on 'Living Wholly in the Here and Now', attracted about 130 participants; the second was on the

theme 'Discovering the Peace Hidden in the Silence' which 190 persons attended; and the third, on 'Life—A Song without End', was attended by about 140.

Members' meetings are held every week. Up to June 1994 we used to hold public meetings once a month, and since July 1994 twice a month.

The following books were published in 1,200 copies each: *The Voice of the Silence*, *At the Feet of the Master*, and *Raja Yoga* by Wallace Slater. A pamphlet on positive thinking was published too, in 2,000 copies and we carry on issuing our theosophical magazine in Hebrew, of which the last

was distributed in July 1994. Since July 1994 we have opened an additional meeting place, in a suburb near Tel-Aviv, where we hold some of the courses and do administrative work. We now have 39 members.

MR ABRAHAM ORON  
*President, Covenant Lodge*

#### **JAPAN**

No Report

#### **KOREA**

No Report

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# DIRECTORY

## AND

# MINUTES

## OF THE MEETINGS OF THE

# GENERAL COUNCIL

# DIRECTORY

## *Ex-Officio Members of the General Council*

*President: Mrs Radha Burnier*

*Vice-President: Mr Surendra Narayan*

*Secretary: Mr Pedro R. M. Oliveira*

*Treasurer: Mr D. K. Govindaraj*

## National Societies, Regional Associations and Presidential Agencies

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1947	Africa, East & Central	... Mr Bhupendra R. Vora	... 55A 3rd Ave., Parklands PO Box 48507, Nairobi, Kenya
1909	Africa, South	... Mr T. G. Davis	... 22 Buffels Rd. Rietondale 0084, Pretoria
1956	Africa, West	... Mr P.B. Kwakyi	... PO Box 720, Accra, Ghana
1929	America, Central...	Miss Carmen Aguilar Alvarez	... 3a Calle 5-35 Zona 2 01002 Guatemala
1920	Argentina	... Miss Silvia Blajer	... Pje Florencio Balcarce 71, 1405 Buenos Aires
1990	Asia, South East †	... Dr C. V. Agarwal	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010 India
1895	Australia	... Miss Joy Mills	... 4th Fl., 484 Kent St., Sydney, NSW 2000
1912	Austria	... Mr Franz Durkowitsch	... Altmuhleweg 5/6, A-4810 Gmunden
1911	Belgium	... Dr H. van der Hecht	... 166 Rue de la Cambre, 1200 Brussels
1965	Bolivia †	... Mrs Teresa W. de Nuñez	... Casilla de Correo 3911, Cochabamba
1920	Brazil	... Mr Alfredo Puig Figueroa	... Sociedade Teosofica no Brazil, SGAS— Quadra 603, No. 20, CEP 70200-630 Brasilia (DF)
1924	Canada *	... Mr Hugh Jackson	... 158 Crescent Rd. Apt. 311, Toronto, Ont. Canada M4W 1V2
1920	Chile	... Mr Carlos Ramirez Lohaus	... Casilla 3603, Santiago
1937	Colombia	... Mr Antonio Martinez Segura	... Cra. 6, No. 56-40, Bogota-2
1905	Cuba	... Dra Lelia Fernandez Pagola	... Lombillo 634, Apartado de Correos 6365, La Habana 10600
1918	Denmark †	... Mrs Edel Scharstein	... Kobmagergade 65, 2.th., 1150-Copenhagen K.
1888	England	... Miss Lilian Storey	... 50 Gloucester Place, London W1H 3JJ
1907	Finland	... Mrs Kirsti Elo	... Vironkatu 7c2, 00170, Helsinki 17
1899	France	... Prof. C. T. Phan	... 4 Square Rapp, 75007 Paris
1902	Germany	... Ger Baron v.d. Osten-Sacken	... Freiligrath-Ring 6, D-40878 Ratingen
1928	Greece	... Mr Anagnostou	... 25 Voukourestiou St., 106 71-Athens
1907	Hungary †	... Mr Laszlo Reicher	... Bajesy-Zsilinszky ut 51, II-1065 Budapest VI
1921	Iceland	... Mr Einar Adalsteinsson	... P O Box 1257 Ingolfsstraeti 22, 121 Reykjavik
1891	India	... Mr M. P. Singhal	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010
1912	Indonesia	... Mr H.M. Soesiswo	... Jalan Oto Iskandardinata III/G. 336, Jatinegara, Jakarta 13340, Timur
1949	Ireland N. *	... Mr John Doherty	... 30, Hillsborough Drive, Off Woodstock Rd., Belfast BT 69 DS



1919	Ireland, Rep. †	...	Mrs W. Woods	...	31 Pembroke Road, Dublin 4
1902	Italy	...	Mr Edoardo Bratina	...	via E. Toti 3, Post Box 1252, 34131 Trieste
1919	Mexico	...	Ms Lissette Arroyo Jimenez	...	Ignacio Mariscal 126 Col. Tabacalera C.P. 06470 Mexico 1, D.F.
1897	Netherlands	...	Ms Ali Ritsema	...	Tolstraat 154, 1074 VM Amsterdam
1896	New Zealand	...	Mr Hugh Dixon	...	18, Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland 3
1913	Norway	...	Mr Torstein A. Tobiassen	...	PO Box 2889, Toyen 0608, Oslo 6
1948	Pakistan †	...	Mrs Gool K. Minwalla	...	Jamshed Memorial Hall, M.A. Jinnah Road, Karachi
1924	Peru †	...	Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar	...	Jr. Republic de Portugal 152, Brena, Lima-100, S.America
1933	Philippines, The	...	Mr Vicente Ilaó Chin, Jr.	...	Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City
1921	Portugal	...	Dr Maria G. Nobre Santos	...	Campo Martires da Pátria 69, r/c-Dto., Lisbon 1
1994	Russia †	...	Mrs Nina Veligon	...	Pereulok Soviet House 4 Flat 56, 455036 Magnitogorsk
1925	Puerto Rico	...	Mr Miguel A. Charneco	...	Apartado 36-1766 Correo General, San Juan, 00936--1766.
1910	Scotland †	...	Mrs Margaret T. Senior	...	12 Granary Park, Rafford, by Forres, Morayshire, IV 36 OJZ
1992	Slovenia *	...	Mr Anton Jesse	...	Kremzarjeva 24, 61000 Ljubljana
1921	Spain	...	Dr Angel Rubio	...	Pau Claris, 77, 3 <sup>o</sup> , 1 <sup>a</sup> , 08010 Barcelona
1926	Sri Lanka	...	Mr Melwin Herath	...	24/A Shady Grove Av., Colombo 8
1895	Sweden	...	Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund	...	Kalle Posts vag 48, S-702 29 Orebro
1910	Switzerland	...	Mme Eliane Gaillard	...	17 Ch. de la Côte CH-1282, Dardagny, Genève
1886	USA	...	Dr John Algeo	...	PO Box 270, Wheaton, Ill. 60189-0270
1925	Uruguay	...	Ms Thelma Cestau	...	Javier Barrios Amorin 1085 Casilla de Correos 1553, Montevideo
1953	Venezuela †	...	Mr Efrain Alvares	...	Apartado 2907, Caracas
1922	Wales *	...	Mr Malcolm Tanner	...	8 Millbrook Close, Dinas Powys, Cardiff CF6 4DD, S.Glamorgan, U.K

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European Federation of National Societies	<i>Chairman:</i>	Mr Curt Berg, Sparrisbacken, 63, S-165, 61 Hasselby, Sweden
Inter-American Theosophical Federation	<i>President:</i>	Mr Ulisses Resende, SGAS Quadra 603, 20 (CEP-70200-630), Brasilia (DF) Brazil.
Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation	<i>President:</i>	Mr V. Ilaó Chin, Jr., Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City, The Philippines

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**Additional Members of the General Council**

DR HUGH SHEARMAN, 623 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3LQ UK.  
(for 1993, 1994 and 1995)

MRS NORMA Y. SASTRY, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600 020, India  
(for 1994, 1995 and 1996)

MR S.S. VARMA, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600 020, India  
(for 1993, 1994 and 1995)

MR CURT BERG, Sparrisbacken 63, S-165 61, Hässelby, Sweden  
(for 1993, 1994, and 1995)

MR CONRAD JAMIESON, 1/209, Manukau Road, Epsom, Auckland 3, New Zealand  
(for 1995, 1996 and 1997)

MISS TRAN THI KIM DIÊU, 67, Rue des Pommiers, 45000 Orleans, France  
(for 1995, 1996 and 1997)

MR GUIDO HAAS, International Theosophical Centre, Valkeveenselaan 19, 1411 GT  
Naarden, the Netherlands (for 1995, 1996 and 1997)

MISS IANTHE HOSKINS, 37 Victoria Hill Road, Hextable, Swanley, Kent BR87LL,  
England (for 1993, 1994 and 1995)

MISS MARY ANDERSON, Hauensteinstrasse 114, CH-4059 Basle, Switzerland  
(for 1993, 1994 and 1995)

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## MINUTES

*Of the meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society  
held on 25 December 1994 at Adyar*

### PRESENT

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President (in the chair) and proxy for West Africa, Italy, Belgium and Argentina</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Vice-President and proxy for Sweden, Finland, Chile and Mrs Gool Minwalla</i>
Mr Pedro Oliveira	<i>Secretary and proxy for Uruguay, Central America, Colombia, Norway and Mr Walter Ballesteros</i>
Mr D.K. Govindaraj	<i>Treasurer</i>
Miss Joy Mills	<i>General Secretary, Australia and proxy for USA</i>
Mr M.P. Singhal	<i>General Secretary, India</i>
Prof. C.T. Phan	<i>General Secretary, France</i>
Mr Bhupendra R. Vora	<i>General Secretary, East and Central Africa</i>
Mr T.G. Davis	<i>General Secretary, Southern Africa</i>
Mr Hugh Dixon	<i>General Secretary, New Zealand</i>
Mr Alfredo Puig Figuerola	<i>General Secretary, Brazil</i>
Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr.	<i>General Secretary, Philippines</i>
Miss Ianthe Hoskins	<i>Additional Member and proxy for England and Portugal</i>
Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Austria and Germany</i>
Miss Tran-Thi-Kim-Diêu	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Mr Curt Berg</i>
Mr Conrad Jamieson	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mrs Norma Y. Sastry	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr S.S. Varma	<i>Additional Member</i>

### *Present by invitation as Observers:*

Dr C.V. Agarwal	<i>Presidential Representative for South-East Asia</i>
Mr Matius Ali	<i>Vice-General Secretary, Indonesia</i>
Mr Louis Geertman	<i>Vice-General Secretary, Holland</i>

The President extended a warm welcome to the members of the General Council and observers present.

## 1. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held at Adyar on 25 December 1993 and 1 January 1994, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed. The omission in the minutes to Miss Joy Mills as having been proxy for USA was corrected.

## 2. Matters arising out of the Minutes

### (a) *Essential Elements in Rules of Sections*

The comments received on the list of Essential Elements were considered. Some members of the Council seem to have got the impression that Item 5 is not feasible, as the provision would violate the law in some countries. It was pointed out that this was already taken into account by providing for local trustees in Rule 44. In case appointment of such trustees by the President is not permissible, care might be taken to vest the properties in a Trust composed of devoted and long-standing members. The purpose is to safeguard the Society's property in the country until such time as the TS in that country is revived or its Charter restored.

Misunderstanding about Item 6 had also arisen as some members had not realized that neither Item 6 of the Essential Elements, nor the amendments circulated for voting involved new restrictions on voting rights, but only clarified that 2 years meant 24 consecutive months. The Secretary was requested to send a clarification.

After full discussion the Council decided that the Rules of each National Society should contain the following provisions:

1. The... Section of the Theosophical Society is a component part of the Theosophical Society, founded in New York, USA on 17 November 1875 and incorporated at Madras, India on 3 April 1905, and having its permanent headquarters at Adyar, Madras, India.
2. The Section has the power to make its own Rules, which shall, however, not be incompatible with the Rules of the Theosophical Society. Any amendment to the Rules must be submitted for approval by the President as per Rule 37 of the Rules of the TS and shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within nine months of acknowledgement of its receipt. (This is included in Rule 37 of the Rules of the TS)
3. If by a change made in a Rule of the Theosophical Society, at any time, any Rule or Rules of the Theosophical Society in...ceases to be compatible with the Rules of the Theosophical Society such a Rule shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the Theosophical Society.

(This is included in Rule 37 of the Rules of the TS)

4. The Rules of the Theosophical Society shall apply in respect of any matter about which the Rules of the Theosophical Society in...are silent.

(Legal problems have arisen in certain places where the Rules of the Lodge/Section were silent on important points.)

5. In the event of the cancellation of its Charter under Rule 36 of the Rules of the Theosophical Society, or on its dissolution, the constituent Charter granted by the President of the Theosophical Society shall *ipso facto* become forfeited or lapsed, and all property, movable and immovable, including Charter, Diplomas (Certificates), Seal, Records and other papers belonging to or in its custody shall vest in the Theosophical Society and delivery shall be made to the President, or to his nominee on his behalf, and the provisions of Rule 44 of the Rules of The Theosophical Society shall apply.

(In cases when such vesting is prohibited by the law of the country, the wording will be as under:

'shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees appointed by the President, and the provisions of Rule 44 of the Rules of The Theosophical Society shall apply'.)

(This is included in Rule 44 of the Rules of the TS)

6. No member who is not in good standing for less than twenty-four consecutive months from the date of admission prior to the date of voting shall have the right to vote in that election unless a waiver has been made in terms of Rule 29(e) of the Rules of the TS.

(This is included in Rule 29(e) of the Rules of the TS)

7. All Charters of Lodges (Branches) and all Diplomas (Certificates) of membership shall bear the signature of the International President from whom they derive their authority.

(This is included in Rules 34 and 36 of the Rules of the TS)

8. The General Secretaries and other officers, including Committee members, shall have been members in good standing for not less than 36 consecutive months immediately prior to their election.

(This is included in Rule 38(d) of the Rules of the TS)

9. The annual report of the National Society, the audited statement of accounts, and statistics of lodges and members shall be sent every year, not later than the first day of November to the President; fifteen



percent of the annual fees shall be remitted to the International Treasurer before the first day of March of the current year.

(This is included in Rules 39 and 43 (a) of the Rules of the TS)

#### (b) *World Congress*

Miss Joy Mills informed the Council that in view of the Olympic Games to be held in Sydney in the year 2000, it is proposed that the World Congress be held in mid-January 2001. The Council agreed, subject to any unexpected eventualities in between.

#### (c) *Eastern Europe*

Miss Tran-Thi-Kim-Diêu reported on her and Mr Curt Berg's visits to the Ukraine. There are plans to establish an HPB Museum in the house where she was born in Dnepropetrovsk and the Chairman of the European Federation has been invited to be on the Committee. The Council decided that help may be given in the form of copies of archival material, but none financially.

#### (d) *Federations*

With reference to the minutes of 1 January 1994 on the proposal that Federations comprising National Societies in contiguous areas shall figure in the Society's Rules and Regulations, the committee appointed by the President to examine the Essential Elements in Rules recommended that the Rules of the Society should not be amended to give formal recognition to such Federations as it may necessitate ensuring uniformity in their constitution and functioning which may not be desirable or even feasible. It was therefore decided to drop the idea.

### 3. Confirmation of Voting

#### (a) *Amendments to the Rules and Regulations of the TS*

The following amendments had been circulated for voting (changes in italics):

##### (i) Amendment to Rule 10(c)

Each member of the General Council who is a General Secretary shall be entitled to nominate *up to three different persons* and shall consult his Governing Body before making nominations.

The President shall be entitled to make three nominations *likewise*.

The nominator shall be responsible for ensuring that his nomination(s) reaches the Secretary within ten weeks of the date of the call for *nominations*.

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
32	1	1	—	34

(ii) Amendment to Rule 10(e)

Each General Secretary, Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary and Presidential Representative shall make known the names of the candidates and their biographical data to the members in his area and take the votes in accordance with the instructions in Appendix B to these Rules of the individual members *who have reached the age of eighteen years* on the rolls of his National Society or area of administration who have been members in good standing for *twenty-four consecutive months immediately prior to* the date of the call for nominations, and shall communicate the results to the Secretary in accordance with the instructions given in Appendix B to these rules.

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
34	—	—	—	34

(iii) Amendment to Rule 15

The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three months, *receive and consider* accounts and *transact* any other business...

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
34	—	—	—	34

(iv) Amendment to Rule 19

All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the *Society* shall be received by the Treasurer, *or his Deputy or Assistant designated for the purpose*, the receipt of any of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
33	—	1	—	34

(v) Amendment to Rule 20

*The securities and uninvested funds of the Society shall be deposited in such Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee shall select.*

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
34	—	—	—	34

(vi) Amendment to Rule 23

The Society may sue and be sued in the name of the President or Secretary.

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
34	—	—	—	34

(vii) Amendment to Rule 29(a)

Admission to membership may be obtained through the President of a Lodge (Branch), the General Secretary of a National Society, *Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary or Presidential Representative* or through the Secretary; and a Diploma (Certificate) of membership shall be issued to the Fellow, bearing the signature of the President, and countersigned by the General Secretary, *Regional Secretary, Organizing Secretary or Presidential Representative*, where the applicant resides within the territory of a National Society, *Regional Association or Presidential Agency*, or countersigned by the Secretary, if admission to membership has been obtained through the Secretary.

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
33	1	—	—	34

(viii) Amendment to Rule 29(e)

Without prejudice to the provisions of Rule 10, no member in good standing for less than *twenty-four consecutive months immediately prior to the date of voting* shall have the right to vote in elections and other matters pertaining to Lodges, Federations, Regional Associations, National Societies or other duly constituted bodies of the Theosophical Society.

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
33	1	—	—	34

(ix) Amendment to Rule 33

The Presidents, Secretaries and other Officers, including Committee

Members, of Lodges (Branches) shall have been members in good standing for not less than *twenty-four consecutive months* immediately prior to their election.

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
33	1	—	—	34

(x) Amendment to Rule 35(d)

The President shall have authority at his discretion to appoint and to withdraw appointments of Presidential Representatives to act under his instructions for the purposes of conducting the business and administration of the Society in any place and in any respect not inconsistent with these Rules, *including the area of a National Society or Regional Association which has been dissolved, or whose Charter or Certificate, as the case may be, has been cancelled.*

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
33	1	—	—	34

(xi) Amendment to Rule 36(b)

Without prejudice to the provisions of sub-rule (a), a National Society, Section or Regional Association may cancel the Charter of a Lodge (Branch) or *Diploma (Certificate) of membership* within its area. This power shall be exercised by the Governing Body or Committee which is responsible according to the constitution, rules and regulations of the National Society, Section or Regional Association, for the management of the business and affairs of the National Society, Section or Regional Association. *The order of cancellation shall also specify that the Lodge (Branch) or member has the right of appeal to the President against the cancellation within a period of three months from the date of receipt of the order of cancellation of the Charter or Diploma (Certificate).*

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
33	—	1	—	34

(xii) Amendment to Rule 36(c)

The Lodge (Branch) or member, *as the case may be*, may appeal to the President against the cancellation of its Charter or *(his) Diploma (Certificate) of membership* under sub-rule (b) within a period of three months from the date of receipt of the order of cancellation of the

Charter or *Diploma (Certificate)* and the President may either uphold or quash the order of cancellation. The decision of the President shall be deemed to be effective from the date of the order of cancellation of the Charter or *Diploma (Certificate)* by the National Society, Section or Regional Association.

Provided that if the President does not pass an order on the appeal within a period of *twelve months* from the date of receipt of the appeal, the cancellation of the Charter or *Diploma (Certificate)* shall be deemed to have been upheld.

The result of the voting was:

For	Against	Abstained	Invalid	Total
33	—	1	—	34

(xiii) Amendment to Rule 37(b)

If by a change made in a Rule of the Theosophical Society, any Rule of a National Society, which was *previously* not incompatible with the Rules of the Theosophical Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the National Society shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the Theosophical Society.

If by a change made in a Rule of a National Society, any Rule of a Lodge (Branch) which *previously* was not incompatible with the Rules of the National Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the Lodge (Branch) shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the National Society.

*In the event of a rule becoming invalid on account of such incompatibility, and in respect of any matter on which the rules of any duly constituted body of the Theosophical Society is silent, the Rules of the Theosophical Society shall automatically apply.*

The result of the voting was:

For	Against	Abstained	Invalid	Total
32	2	—	—	34

(xiv) Amendment to Rule 38(d)

General Secretaries, Regional Secretaries, Organizing Secretaries and other Officers, including Committee Members of National Societies and Regional Associations, shall have been members in good standing for not less than *thirty-six consecutive months* immediately prior to their election to the office concerned.



The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
32	1	1	—	34

(xv) Amendment to Rule 44 (addition at the end)

When the Charter of a National Society is cancelled or a National Society is dissolved, the conduct of the entire business and administration of the Society in the area of such National Society *ipso facto* vests in the President and all office-bearers, committees or bodies, by whatever name called, concerned with the conduct of the business and administration thereof shall automatically cease functioning.

The result of the voting was:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
32	2	—	—	34

Having received the required number of votes, all the above amendments to Rules (Rules 10(c), 10(e), 15, 19, 20, 23, 29(a), 29(e), 33, 35(d), 36(b), 36(c), 37(b), 38(d) and 44) were declared adopted.

(b) *Election of Additional Members for the years 1995, 1996 and 1997*

The President had nominated Mr Conrad Jamieson, Miss Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu and Mr Guido Haas under Rule 2(b) of the Rules and Regulations as Additional Members of the General Council.

The result of the voting was:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstained</i>	<i>Invalid</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mr Conrad Jamieson	31	2	1	—	34
Miss Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu	32	1	1	—	34
Mr Guido Haas	32	—	2	—	34

Mr Conrad Jamieson, Miss Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu and Mr Guido Haas were declared elected as Additional Members of the General Council for the years 1995, 1996 and 1997.

**4. Report of the Non-English Publications Fund Committee for the year ending 30 September 1994**

The report for the year ending 30 September 1994, which had been already circulated, was presented by the Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan. During the year only one request for a grant was received and sanctioned to the Regional Association in Slovenia for publishing a Slovenian translation of *The Key to Theosophy*.

The following were appointed members of the committee for years 1995, 1996 and 1997:

President of the TS,	<i>Chairman</i>
Vice-President of the TS,	<i>Vice-Chairman</i>
Mr Curt Berg	
Miss Joy Mills	
Mr Pedro R.M. Oliveira	
Mr Paul B. Kwakyi	

## 5. Report of the International Finance Committee

The Vice-President, Mr Surendra Narayan, presented the report of the International Finance Committee for the year ending 30 September 1994.

The following were appointed as members of the Committee for the years 1995, 1996 and 1997:

President of the TS
Vice-President of the TS
Mr D.K. Govindaraj, <i>Treasurer</i>
Mr S.S. Varma, <i>General Council Member</i>

## 6. Report of the Executive Committee for the year ending 30 September 1994

Salient points from the minutes of the Executive Committee were presented.

The following were appointed as members of the Executive Committee for 1995:

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Vice-President</i>
Mr Pedro R.M. Oliveira	<i>Secretary</i>
Mr D.K. Govindaraj	<i>Treasurer</i>
Mrs Norma Y. Sastry	<i>General Council Member</i>
Mr S.S. Varma	" " "
Mr Conrad Jamieson	" " "
Mr K. Visvanathan	

## 7. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 1994

The Treasurer's Report and accounts for the year ending 31 March 1994, which had been previously circulated, were considered. It was noted that the financial position of the Society is satisfactory and the report and accounts were adopted.

## **8. Budget for the year ending 31 March 1996**

The budget for the year ending 31 March 1996, which had been previously circulated, was considered and adopted.

## **9. Auditors for the year ending 31 March 1996**

Messrs Fraser and Ross were appointed as auditors of the Theosophical Society for the year ending 31 March 1996 on the same terms and conditions as before.

## **10. Voting procedure for a Presidential Election (Appendix B of the Rules of the TS)**

It was proposed that the voting results (Form C) could also be sent to the Secretary by fax, but the original copy must be sent by airmail. The necessary amendments are to be proposed.

Miss Joy Mills, on behalf of the Australian Section, proposed that the 'For' and 'Against' ballot be deleted from the Rules since it is considered expensive and unnecessary. Other Council members expressed the view that even when there is only one candidate, there should be an election, which gives an opportunity to the membership worldwide to express their support or otherwise to the candidate.

## **11. Minimum qualifications for a National Society**

The President pointed out that there should be minimum qualifications for a National Society to be recognized as such by the International Society besides what is mentioned in Rule 36(d), such as sending regularly to Adyar statistics of Lodges and membership, annual report and information on the election of the General Secretary. It was decided to propose the necessary amendments to the Rules.

## **12. Proposals of Australian Section**

Apart from the proposal to delete the requirement of a 'For' or 'Against' ballot referred to in Item 10 above, the National Council of the Australian Section had made several other proposals. These will be considered by the Executive Committee.

The Council meeting was adjourned to 31.12.1994 at 2 p.m.

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## MINUTES

### *Of the Adjourned meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held at Adyar on Saturday, 31 December 1994, at 2 p.m.*

#### PRESENT

All the Council members and observers present at the meeting held on 25 December 1994, except Mr Matius Ali, *Vice-General Secretary, Indonesia*.

#### 13. Work around the World

##### (a) *Canada*

Victoria Lodge had been granted provisional affiliation to Adyar for one year. After discussion it was decided that the lodge should now choose either to join the Canadian Federation or cease to be part of the TS.

##### (b) *Scotland*

The President informed the Council about the problems of the Presidential Agency. Miss Ianthe Hoskins proposed that the members should elect their own office-bearers. It was decided to form a Regional Association as soon as possible after conducting an election in the presence of a suitable neutral party.

##### (c) *Greece*

Statistics have been received very late, reporting an increase in membership, but no annual report. A Greek member attended the International Convention and showed interest in keeping in touch with Adyar.

##### (d) *Sections with membership below the required minimum*

For a number of years, Chile, Norway and Sri Lanka had not fulfilled the minimum requirements of Rule 36(d). Chile is showing some improvement. The Council held that there should be a time limit for a Section not having numerical strength to retain its status as a Section. It was decided to review the situation of the Sections concerned after one year.

##### (e) *Central America*

A request has come from the lodges in Costa Rica to become a Presidential

Agency. The system of rotating the headquarters of the Section from country to country has been detrimental to the work. After discussion the Council decided that the President should withdraw the Section's Charter and make Costa Rica a Presidential Agency, with the lodges in adjoining countries under its aegis. The Inter-American Federation is to be requested to help in the work by sending speakers, organizing workers' training, etc.

#### (f) *New Zealand*

The General Secretary, Mr Hugh Dixon reported about the problems which led to the cancellation of the charter of the Christchurch branch and the law suit to prevent the breakaway group from using the lodge's name. He suggested that all lodges should incorporate in their bylaws the three Objects of the TS, as New Zealand proposes to do.

#### (g) *Adyar Newsletter*

The President said that a proposal was made by TPH Adyar that the *Adyar Newsletter* be sent as a supplement to *The Theosophist*. After discussion it was decided, as an experiment, to send *The Theosophist*, free of charge, to all English-speaking lodges for a period of two years with the *Adyar Newsletter* as a supplement.

#### (h) *Theosophical Education*

Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr., General Secretary of the Philippine Section suggested that the TS should make a concerted effort towards implementing theosophical education on a practical level like starting theosophical schools and organizing teachers' training programmes. In the discussion that ensued it was mentioned that the Society is fundamentally concerned with the dissemination of theosophical principles and that it cannot concern itself directly with projects in education, art, etc. Individual members must take initiatives in these matters.

#### (i) *Internet*

Mr Hao Chin Jr. suggested the use by the TS worldwide of the computer information network (internet) as a means to expedite communication. It was pointed out that for many countries this facility is still too costly.

#### (j) *Membership Decline*

The President expressed concern over the general decline in membership around the world. Most of the Sections suffered a numerical loss, which was attributed by several Sections to dropping lapsed members. During the discussion it was pointed out that if lapsed members are dropped every year as they should be, there would be no large decrease in any particular year. This year's loss is around 2,000. Responsible officers in the Sections and Regions should examine the real



causes of decline and means of vitalizing the Society. Mention was made of the inspiration and enthusiasm which arise out of working together in Lodges and Centres, which is lacking when unattached membership increases; also the need for more attention and guidance to new members and prospective members, the losses in many Sections being largely of new members.

The President referred to the numerous other organizations which now propagate concepts (karma, reincarnation, unity of life, Masters, etc.) that were new and attractive and which only the TS provided in earlier days. The need now is for the TS to be the means through which a deeper understanding of these subjects, particularly as related to daily life, is made available to the public. For instance, in dealing with reincarnation it is not enough nowadays to explain the process and offer evidence of its validity, but to encourage understanding of how the soul grows by reincarnating into recognizing the inherent value of many diverse people and individuals, learns to discriminate between the real and the unreal, etc. etc. Study and training programmes should be reoriented with this in view.

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